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PRICE CHANGES YESTERDAY
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Paisley threatens to make Northern Ireland ungovernable

BY PETER RIDDELL IN LONDON AND BRENDAN KEENAN IN BELFAST

THE REV IAN PAISLEY last night threatened to make Northern Ireland ungovernable after he and his two colleagues in the Democratic Unionist Party were suspended from the House of Commons for a week for attempting to shout down Mr James Prior.

At Westminster the Commons sitting was suspended twice amid scenes of uproar and bitterness reminiscent of the disruption by the Irish Nationalists in the 1980s.

Official Unionists were also in a bitter mood, though they kept within the rules of parliamentary procedure.

He accused the Government of "sharing, if not the methods, at least the aims, of the IRA."

Mr Prior said new laws or more resources were not needed. What was required was more information and co-operation from the whole community in Northern Ireland.

The Prime Minister said in her speech at the Lord Mayor's banquet in London last night that the Government would not "fall in its search for a peaceful solution and if the situation in Belfast is not improved, the Government will be forced to consider other options."

He said, should have refrained from pouring petrol onto the flames.

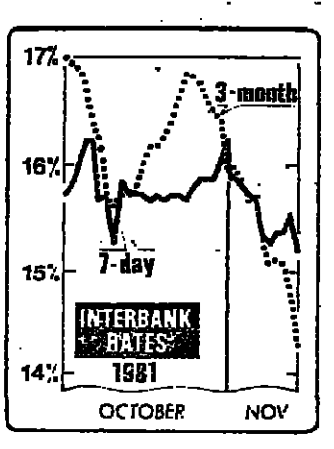
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Bank makes rare discount house loans

By William Hall, Banking Correspondent

The Bank of England acted to temper the downward trend in UK interest rates yesterday as the pound strengthened again and interest rates in the U.S. continued to fall.

Facing a shortage of around £250m in the UK money markets, the Bank of England took the unusual step, under the new system of monetary controls, of lending direct to four or five of the discount houses.

In the last few weeks the Bank has been accommodating the large shortages in the UK money markets by buying bills at 14 1/2 per cent. Yesterday it bought £75m of bills at this rate but met the bulk of the shortage by lending £115m overnight at the higher rate of 15 1/2 per cent in several houses.

By failing to accommodate all the shortages in the UK money market, the authorities also left the market short of funds, overnight rates in the interbank market rose to 100 per cent at one stage before clothing at 20 per cent.

The decision by the authorities to intervene in the money markets, by lending direct to the discount houses rather than buying bills, is rare under the new system.

The move was interpreted by dealers as an indication that the authorities wanted to slow, but not necessarily halt the decline in UK interest rates.

This view was underlined by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, when he indicated to a House of Commons committee yesterday that the Government would continue with a firm interest rate policy in pursuit of its monetary targets.

Three-month Eurodollar interest rates fell yesterday by a percentage point to 12 1/2 per cent. The pound rose to a 51.9310 against the dollar at one stage, before closing in at 51.9250.

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Thatcher stresses need to stand by basic strategy

BY ELINOR GOODMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE PRIME MINISTER claimed last night that there was now real evidence of a recovery in the economy and urged the country not to endanger the progress already made.

It was clear, she said, that the economy had "passed the trough of recession in the middle of this year," and that at last Britain was becoming more competitive.

In her annual speech to the City of London at the Lord Mayor's Banquet, Mrs Thatcher struck again the note of cautious optimism which had been evident in her last three major speeches.

As in all her speeches since the Conservative Party conference, she also acknowledged the need for flexibility. But her basic message was that the Government was determined not to be deflected from its basic strategy. The room for manoeuvre, she warned, was limited.

She implicitly rejected the demands of her Conservative critics for reflation. Endless borrowing, she said, simply would not work.

Mrs Thatcher claimed that rising manufacturing output was one sign that the economy was beginning to recover. She also cited Britain's recent export performance and claimed the increase in engineering and construction orders, in private housing starts and in retail sales all supported this "brightening picture."

She acknowledged, however, that the news was by no means all good. She conceded that the overall fall in the exchange rate was now working its way into prices, but added that she thought it would only be a "short while" before the downward trend of inflation was resumed.

Despite Mrs Thatcher's insistence on the need to stick to the basic strategy, her rhetoric was softer than a year ago. Britain's worst problem was the 3m unemployed. "For them especially we must temper the sharpness of change. We must cushion them from its worst effects. And we must protect the most vulnerable from the extremes of the international climate."

But she insisted that it would be no help to the unemployed if Britain either retreated behind a siege economy or repeated the mistakes of previous administrations. It was essential, she said, that Britain "held fast" to the principles that had been the foundation of all prosperous societies. Returning to one of her most familiar themes, she said that the Government had a duty to observe the discipline which had long been practised in the family. It would be unworthy, she warned, to try to evade economic reality by endless borrowing. "It would not only be unworthy—it wouldn't work," she said.

She concluded to make clear her total determination to stick to the strategy. "But like the general we shall be flexible in our tactics although our room for manoeuvre is limited."

Slight recovery in retail spending, Page 8

EEC risks Israeli veto

BY JOHN WYLES IN BRUSSELS

THE European Community is preparing to risk an Israeli veto on its participation in the Sinai peace-keeping force.

It intends to accept a U.S. invitation to participate in the multinational force which will monitor Sinai after Israel's withdrawal next April 25, but will separately reaffirm its commitment to bringing the Palestine Liberation Organisation into negotiations for a comprehensive Middle East peace.

Mr Menachem Begin, Israel's Prime Minister who, with Egypt's leaders, must approve the force's membership, has warned that he will veto the presence of British, French, Italian and Dutch troops if there is an attempt by the Europeans to link their participation to any Middle East peace formula other than that agreed at Camp David.

The Ten may try to placate the Israelis by separating the four member-states' acceptance of invitations to contribute to the Sinai force from a general declaration on the subject.

Australia 'should scrap interest rate controls'

BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

AUSTRALIA should abandon its system of setting interest rates, dismantle its foreign exchange controls and award full licences to a limited number of foreign banks.

These are the main recommendations of the Campbell committee whose comprehensive report, due to be published today, seeks to open the country's creaking and highly protected financial system to international market forces.

The 300-page report is the work of a six-man committee headed by Mr Keith Campbell, a leading businessman, and is likely to stir up considerable controversy.

It is not clear how many of the committee's hundreds of detailed proposals may be adopted. On the eve of the report's publication the Federal Cabinet in Canberra engaged in a four-hour clash over its implications for housing finance.

Some ministers fear that ending controls on interest rates could cause mortgage rates to rise from their existing record levels at a time when Mr Malcolm Fraser, the Prime Minister, is keen to do something to help the home buyer. Such ideas are discouraged in the report.

The Federal Treasury is also reported to be uneasy about proposals which would loosen its vice-like grip over management of the economy.

Mr John Howard, the Treasurer, who commissioned the two-year study, is committed to a considerable degree of deregulation.

The Campbell committee suggests that the institutional arrangements for fixing Australia's exchange rate should be ended, and that the value of the Australian dollar be determined instead by the market with the authorities intervening if necessary.

On foreign banks the report urges that initially the rate of entry of overseas companies wishing to establish an Australian operation should be carefully managed. But foreign bank participation should be restricted only through the number of licences granted, not by other rules.

There has been a flurry of activity in the banking community ahead of the report, culminating in last summer's spate of banking mergers.

The Melbourne-based Commercial Bank of Australia linked with the Bank of New South Wales, and the National

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Navy may sell Antarctic ship

BY HUGH O'SHAUGHNESSY, LATIN AMERICA CORRESPONDENT

NEGOTIATIONS are under way to sell HMS Endurance, 3,600 tons, the only Royal Navy ship adapted for work in the British Antarctic Territories, to Brazil.

The Ministry of Defence said yesterday no decision had been taken about the sale however, Brazilian naval and air forces have been in the process of buying the ship and a sale was expected last month when Professor Antonio Delim Neto, the Brazilian planning minister, visited Britain to sign a major trade deal.

Endurance was one of a number of warships declared surplus to Navy requirements in the Defence Review in June.

Brazil has been expressing increasing interest in Antarctica. It has no claim to territory in the region but is planning an expedition there next year.

The sale of Endurance is, however, being resisted by a powerful lobby, including some Conservative MPs and Tory peers. They argue that the sale would weaken the British position in Antarctica and in the Falkland Islands.

Britain claims sovereignty over a large sector of Antarctica which has large mineral deposits and great fishing potential. This claim has been disputed by Chile and Argentina.

last voyage for the Royal Navy, is the guard ship for the Falkland Islands.

About 20 ships were earmarked for disposal in the June Defence Review. These include the Rothesay, Leander and County class frigates, two amphibious assault ships and one of the three Invincible class aircraft carriers.

Contacts have been made since then with a number of foreign countries which have expressed interest in acquiring the surplus vessels. These are thought to include a number of Latin American navies which have acquired new warships from British yards or second hand vessels from the Royal Navy.

Nett warns of more defence cuts, Page 8

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EUROPEAN NEWS

Dutch to delay missiles decision further

BY OUR AMSTERDAM CORRESPONDENT

THE Dutch Government is to inform its partners in the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation that it will not be able to reach a decision on the stationing of Cruise missiles in December. Mr. Andries van Agt, the Prime Minister told Parliament yesterday. He pointed out that the Netherlands Government had not been able to honour the pledge made in December 1979 as no progress had been made in the talks with the Soviet Union on effective and mutual reduction of medium-range nuclear missiles.

In his Government's policy programme for 1982, Mr. van Agt noted that "real negotiations" on theatre nuclear weapons are starting only on November 30. He could not say when a decision on the Cruise missiles would be taken by his Government, but added that "the timing and nature of the results in the (East-West) negotiations on the nuclear weapons would be playing an important role" in its decision making.

Mr. van Agt repeated the paragraph on defence policy contained in the September outline policy agreement, on the basis of which the Christian Democratic, Labour and Democratic 66 parties agreed to form a coalition. It said that the Cabinet would be consulting its NATO partners, both on the subject of medium-range missiles and on a "substantial reduction" in the number of Dutch nuclear commitments.

Mr. van Agt said that although there was broad agreement within the new Cabinet on defence policy generally, sharp differences had arisen on one essential element—the placing on Dutch territory of Cruise missiles. The policy programme also referred to mounting local criticism about the Netherlands' acceptance of the so-called "twin track" agreement—starting arms negotiations with the Soviet Union while at the same time deciding to station missiles on European soil.

Discussing the Dutch relationship with the Atlantic alliance, Mr. van Agt stressed that the country would remain a "critical and reliable partner." This meant that the Netherlands would continue to voice its often differing views on defence policy, "in anticipation of gaining increased understanding."

Italian union rejects pay changes

By Rupert Cornwell in Rome

ITALY'S MOST powerful trade union yesterday rejected any moves to weaken significantly the country's controversial system of wage indexation, declaring that the real purchasing power of salaries must be maintained.

The stand of the CGIL, the Communist-dominated union to which 4.4m workers belong, was spelt out by Sig. Luciano Lama, its leader, in his keynote speech to its tenth national congress which has just opened in Rome. Sig. Lama implicitly accepted the Government's target of holding down labour costs next year sufficiently to cut inflation to 16 per cent. However, the CGIL's proposals for attaining this appear primarily to involve an increase in the State's contribution to social security payments borne by employers. This would risk raising public expenditure further just when the authorities are fighting to maintain the State sector deficit for 1982 within a ceiling of £50,000bn (£22bn) or around 11 per cent of gross domestic product.

The CGIL proposals, which will have a vital bearing on the Government's efforts to secure an agreement between unions and industry, reflect the deep-rooted problems of the Italian labour movement.

Sig. Lama's speech was an attempt not just to heal divisions with the two other main unions, the Catholic CSIL and the Socialist-leaning UIL, but also to narrow the dangerous gap that has arisen between the leadership and the rank-and-file. The leadership has remained wedded to a moderate line and has lost touch largely with a much more militant shopfloor. The shift of the Communist Party to a more hardline stance has also undermined Sig. Lama's authority.

The package he outlined yesterday would help workers by making tax free increases in pay under the 18 per cent ceiling next year, while companies would be helped by the Government taking over additional social security charges incurred under wage increases up to that figure. Beyond 16 per cent however, workers would face higher tax and social security charges. Companies would have to contribute on behalf of their employees would also increase steeply.

Netherlands plans to step up economic pressure on Pretoria

BY MICHAEL VAN OS IN AMSTERDAM

THE DUTCH Government will examine ways of making the current voluntary oil embargo of South Africa more effective, Mr. Andries van Agt, the Netherlands Prime Minister, said yesterday in Parliament. He was presenting his cabinet's policy programme for 1982 which deals mainly with the gloomy state of the national economy and ways to reduce unemployment.

Mr. van Agt said the Government intended to study how foreign investments in the country could be discouraged and certain imports limited. The anticipated measures reflected the Dutch Government's policy of increasing the political and economic pressure on South Africa through peaceful means, so as to force Pretoria to introduce significant reforms and to solve the problems on Namibia's independence.

On the economy, he said that solving the employment problem was the biggest task since the Second World War. An additional problem was that the record budget deficit no longer gave the Government any financial scope. The Government aims to cut the budget deficit to a maximum of 6.5 per cent of national income, assuming this year's deficit will not be the expected 7.5-8 per cent.

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Belgium heading for £4.3bn budget deficit

BRUSSELS.—Belgium is heading for a budget deficit next year of BFR 300bn (£4.3bn), 50 per cent above the target ceiling of BFR 200bn, according to Mr. Mark Eyskens, the outgoing Prime Minister.

In an interview published yesterday in the newspaper De Standaard, Mr. Eyskens described the situation as alarming. He said the next Belgian Government would have to examine all spending programmes to make stringent savings, especially on social welfare payments.

More than a week after the general election in which the right-wing Liberals boosted their vote but the Socialists emerged as the main party grouping in Parliament, Belgians still do not know who will form the next government.

Mr. Herman Vanderpoel, member of the right Flemish Liberal Party expected to report to Baudouin later this week results of his official sojourn among political leaders in Brussels to form a coalition.

His task is difficult, of the severe loss of support for Mr. Eyskens' Flemish Socialist Christian which traditionally is a partner in Belgian governments.

Strikes hit Romania as food shortages grow

BY PAUL LENDVAY IN VIENNA

FOOD SHORTAGES have provoked a wave of strikes and demonstrations in Romania. The biggest stoppages are said to have taken place between October 16 and 19 in the Jiu Valley, site of Romania's largest coalfield.

Striking miners are reported to have held Mr. Emil Bobu, Central Committee Secretary, and former Minister of Labour, in the small town of Motril until President Nicolae Ceausescu agreed to come.

The miners used these tactics in August 1977, when they trapped Mr. Iliev Verdet, then Central Committee Secretary and now Prime Minister, who had been dispatched by President Ceausescu to the region.

President Ceausescu arrived at Motril by helicopter and received a hostile reception as young people threw stones. Security police cleared the site.

and he returned to Bucharest without addressing the crowd. Demonstrators were also said to have attacked a police station in Motril and set it on fire.

The strikes and demonstrations apparently coincided with the publication of a decree about the rationing of bread and flour.

While there are no details about casualties among the demonstrators it is understood that at least one person, the deputy party chief in the city of Giurgiu on the Danube, about 30 miles south of Bucharest, was killed during a riot.

There have been cases of industrial action in the past, which Agrepress, the official news agency, denied. But recent reports indicate that the demonstrations and stoppages are becoming more violent.

Thus, at the end of September, a political bookshop and a party office were reportedly bombed in Ploesti, the centre of the Romanian oil industry.

Meanwhile, the government has issued threats not only against hoarders of food, but also against officials allegedly cheating the state. A court last week sentenced Mr. Ion Novac, director of a state farm, to two years' imprisonment because he ordered two employees to set the unharvested crop on fire.

The director had wanted to conceal that he had failed to bring in the harvest before the deadline of November 1. Two employees were sentenced to 10 months for carrying out his order.

The growing dissatisfaction of the population and the inability of the authorities to improve the food supply have sparked a spate of reports about a government reshuffle. Mr. Ceausescu sacked the Agriculture Minister in September.



Mr. Ceausescu... hostile reception

Soviet party calls for action against bribery

BY DAVID SATTER IN MOSCOW

THE Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party has called on party members to combat growing bribery and theft of Government food supplies.

The call came in a letter for Communist Party members which was read at a closed party meeting earlier this month. It is expected to presage a short-term effort to increase arrests and hand out stiffer penalties.

The letter comes two months after a similar warning of growing food shortages read out at a party meeting in September and was notable because the practice of "closed letters" had been almost abandoned in the past 15 years.

Soviet officials said that publication of two closed letters in three months may have been influenced by events in Poland and could be an attempt to demonstrate official concern for problems.

The letter referred to widespread bribery in the trade network, the creation of artificial deficits in order to sell rare goods at speculative prices, and to the bribery of doctors in order to assure medical care.

The contents of "closed letters" to party members are communicated quickly to non-Party members and the letter may signify that the Government feels there is a need to signal a readiness to act against corruption in the light of growing shortages and a round of recent price increases which pushed up the cost of a vodka by nearly 20 per cent.

The Soviet Union has one of the highest per capita rates of alcohol consumption in the world and Western experts believe that revenues from the sale of alcohol may account for 12 per cent of the entire Soviet state budget.

The increase in vodka prices was accompanied by increases of between 17 and 27 per cent in the price of tobacco and increases in other prices which led to angry reactions on the part of ordinary citizens whose living standard was reduced.

This reaction was directed in part against sales personnel who are widely resented in the Soviet Union because of alleged speculative practices.

Output rises, profits fall in W. German chemicals

BY KEVIN DONE IN FRANKFURT

OUTPUT IN the West German chemicals industry rose a bare 1 per cent in the first nine months of the year and company profitability in the sector has come under considerable pressure.

The sector, one of the pillars of West German industry, increased its turnover by 8 per cent in the period — but most of the rise was achieved through higher prices.

Price increases were insufficient, however, to meet the sharp rise in energy and feedstock costs, which have risen in some cases by up to 50 per cent this year. The West German Chemicals Industry Federation said that profitability had declined by as much as 25 per cent in the first half of the year.

Part of the fall can be accounted for by the comparatively strong performance of the industry in the first quarter of 1980, however, and the profits slump this year could be held to 10 per cent to 12 per cent.

In many areas of bulk chemicals production the industry has been hit hard by falling demand, and in commodity plastics and synthetic fibres the sector has been accumulating considerable losses.

Professor Rolf Sammet, chairman of Hoechst, West Germany's biggest chemicals group, said that industry estimates suggested the whole plastics sector in Western Europe could run up losses of DM 3bn (£750m) this year.

West German chemicals sector investment has not yet been badly affected by continuing industrial stagnation generally

Portugal sets pay ceiling

By Diana Smith in Lisbon

THE PORTUGUESE Government has set a general wage ceiling of 14.75 per cent for next year. This is well below this year's expected inflation rate of 25 per cent and is an attempt to force down consumption that has seriously distorted the balance of payments this year.

Only companies which improve their productivity may give their workers more, up to a limit of 16.75 per cent. Companies in serious economic difficulties—a label applicable to most state-run concerns—must hold increases to 12.5 per cent.

The announcement of the ceiling follows last week's warning by Sr. Joao Salgueiro, the Finance Minister, that the 1982 budget will be austere, with across-the-board cuts in each ministry's spending, increased charges for public services, income tax for civil servants for the first time in Portuguese history, and elimination of secondary or overlapping government departments.

Sr. Salgueiro said Portugal has been living far beyond its means in recent years, piling up a public debt of Es 800bn (£5bn).

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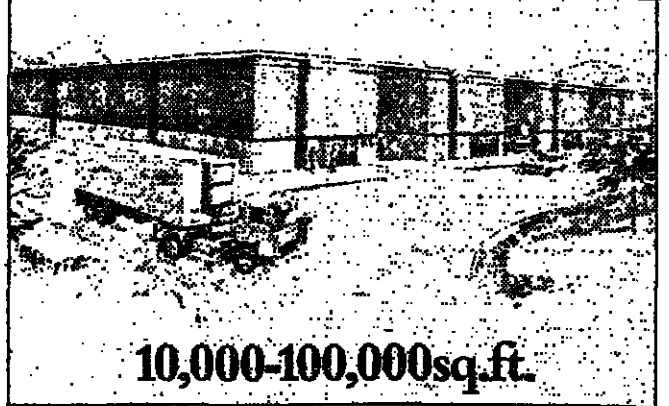
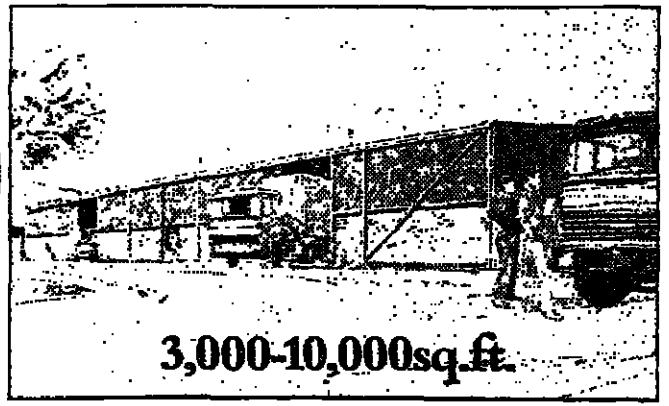
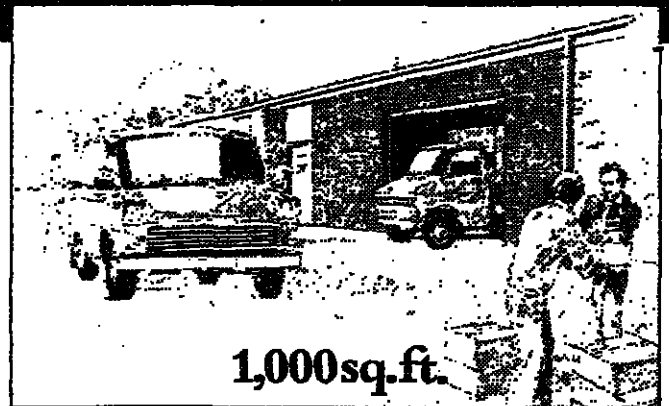
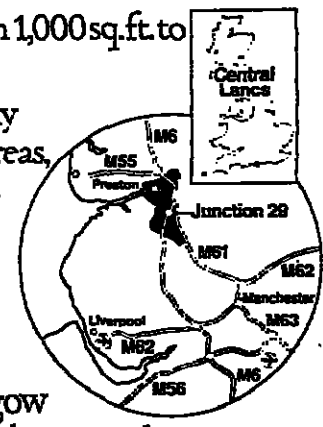
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Jonathan Carr in Bonn reports on the West German Chancellor's efforts to resolve misunderstandings ahead of nuclear talks in Geneva

Schmidt aims to reduce superpower suspicions in Brezhnev talks

SOVIET PRESIDENT, Leonid Brezhnev, will receive a tough message—and encouragement—from Helmut Schmidt as he visits Bonn this Sunday. All three the East-West nuclear problem, negotiations begin between the two superpowers on November 30.

The first message, according to officials, is that the German Government is determined to fulfil its obligation under the Nato "twin track" decision and that Moscow should not be taken by surprise by the decision of December 8. Nato offered negotiations on intermediate-range nuclear missiles which can hit all of Europe, but not the Soviet territory.

Ver, the Alliance also to produce similar of its own and deploy on the end of 1983 if it is with Moscow came to Schmidt is as keen as a seeing the Moscow negotiations.

But he is said to be determined to accept consequences, that is, some of the new missiles on West territory, if the talks Chancellor may be

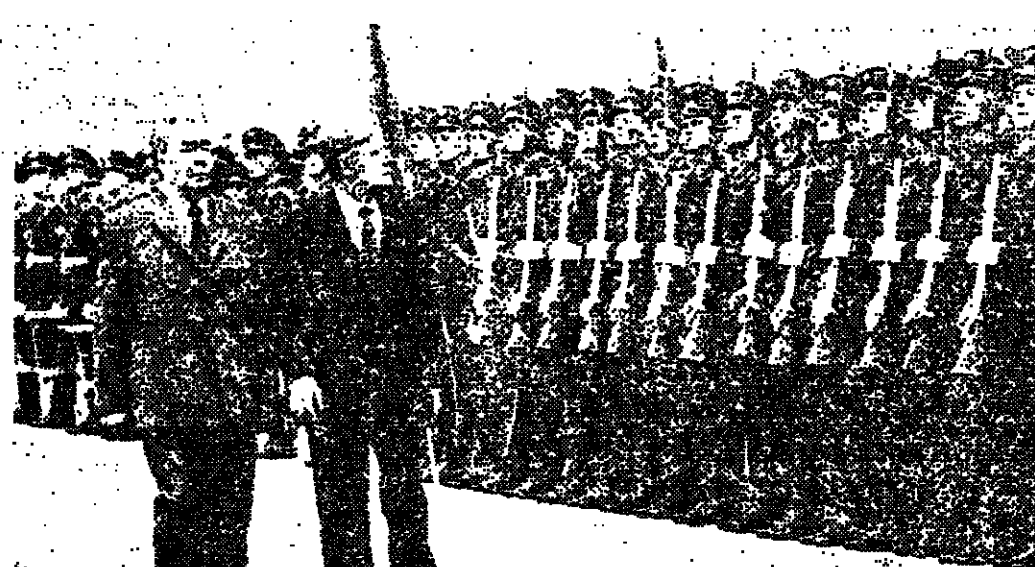
helped, in convincing the Russians of this stand by the clear signs that a showdown in his Social Democrat Party (SPD) on the missiles issue has now been postponed.

The SPD Congress, planned for next April had at one time been thought likely to take a vote on the Nato "twin track" decision — with Herr Schmidt resigning if the result went against him. Now a vote is unlikely until a special congress planned for 1983. The way that goes will depend at least in part on how Moscow behaves at the conference table in the meantime.

The second message—linked to the first — is that Bonn remains firmly opposed to Soviet proposals for a moratorium under which Moscow would stop its buildup of missiles like the SS-20 if Nato dropped its own missiles plans. Mr Brezhnev has recently repeated this suggestion, and it is felt possible he might present a variation of it again during his Bonn stay.

The Germans reject the idea on the grounds that it would freeze an existing Soviet superiority in the intermediate-range field, and remove Nato's main negotiating card.

The third point — which might be described as the sweetener — is that Herr Schmidt, will seek to reassure Mr Brezhnev about U.S. motives in entering into the forthcoming negotiations with Moscow. The Chancellor is said



Herr Helmut Schmidt (right), the West German Chancellor, guest of President Leonid Brezhnev, in Moscow last year. Virtually alone among western leaders in having good relations with both superpower leaders.

to be convinced that the U.S. will not simply be playing for time while adding to its nuclear arsenal, but that it genuinely wants the negotiations to succeed. That assessment is based on Herr Schmidt's personal contacts with President Ronald Reagan — whom Mr Brezhnev has yet to meet — and not on the often contradictory statements of lower-level members of the U.S. administration.

The Chancellor would like to see early, direct talks between

the Soviet and American leaders. Indeed a key aim of his policy has long been to promote a superpower dialogue, above all on arms control, despite the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

However, in the meantime Herr Schmidt clearly sees himself as something of an interpreter for the Russians of the U.S. stance, just as he will be passing on and interpreting Mr Brezhnev's remarks in Bonn to President Reagan—even as the Soviet leader leaves town.

The German side is well aware that this role could easily be misunderstood, and could be taken to imply that Germany is no longer firmly embedded in the Western camp. It also knows that similar suspicions have been aroused by, and that there are U.S. misgivings over, its insistence on sticking to a big deal with Moscow involving the purchase of natural gas in exchange for pipes.

Nonetheless, it is pointed out that Herr Schmidt is virtually

alone among Western leaders in having good relations with both President Reagan (which is far from meaning they agree on everything) and long-standing personal contacts with Mr Brezhnev. It is felt in Bonn that if this position can be used to clear up even some suspicions or misunderstandings before the Geneva talks begin, then it is worth doing.

That does not mean that Bonn expects the Geneva negotiations to be other than extraordinarily tough and complex. To start with it is not clear exactly what the two sides are going to negotiate about. The U.S. insists that the basic trade-off must be between the existing Soviet intermediate-range missiles, and the similar weapons — Pershing 2's and Cruise missiles—which have yet to be fully produced, let alone deployed, on the Western side.

Moscow contends that its intermediate-range capability is a response above all to the so-called forward based systems (FBS) — that is U.S. atomic weapon carriers based in Britain, continental Europe and the seas adjoining, and which could reach Soviet territory.

In recent written answers to questions put by the West German magazine Der Spiegel, Mr Brezhnev lumped these weapons together with the atomic forces (missiles and bombers) of France and Britain and concluded that the west had 986 "nuclear carriers" while Russia had only 975 "similar

weapons." In other words, he contends there is already a rough nuclear balance—without any new Western Pershing 2's or Cruise missiles.

Mr Brezhnev's contention is bluntly described by Government officials here as "nonsense," and his Spiegel interview as an apparent propaganda exercise which it is felt has largely misfired.

It is pointed out that bombers can much more easily be destroyed than missiles, and that Mr Brezhnev counted weapons under not nuclear warheads (although he admitted that the SS-20 had three such, independently targetable warheads, a point already surmised in the West).

It is believed unlikely that Mr Brezhnev will signal any retreat from this maximum position in Bonn, since this would undermine the Soviet stance at the outset of the Geneva talks. The U.S. is bound initially to stick to its tough line for the same reason. But in the longer run it is felt that both sides will have to show flexibility.

All this presupposes that Moscow—as well as Washington—really is aiming at an accord, not simply at building up its strike force above all to exert political pressure on the West European countries. Bonn freely admits that the experience since 1978—when Mr Brezhnev last came to Bonn and agreed with the view that neither East nor West should strive for military

superiority—has been far from encouraging.

Quite apart from the obvious possibility that Mr Brezhnev was deliberately deceiving Herr Schmidt, German officials ask themselves to what extent Mr Brezhnev has been able to control events in the Kremlin on this issue against pressures from the military and the ideologists.

Whatever the true answer, officials nonetheless believe there is a good chance the Soviet-U.S. negotiations will yield results—though probably not ones involving the scapping of all intermediate-range weapons, and not before 1983.

The reason for this cautious optimism is that next year, perhaps as early as February, the Russians and the Americans will begin separate talks on strategic (intercontinental nuclear) weaponry. The Germans believe that a failure to achieve a compromise in the "intermediate range" negotiations would simultaneously undermine the strategic weapons talks. They seriously doubt whether the Soviet Union could tolerate the huge economic strains involved in another acceleration in the strategic arms race with the Americans.

In other words, it is felt that by no means all the cards are in Russian hands—and that maintenance of the "twin track" decision will slowly but surely make this apparent.

Former West LB head cleared of fraud

OUR BONN CORRESPONDENT

LUDWIG POULLAIN, head of Westdeutsche Bank (West LB), one of Germany's biggest banks, was found not guilty of corruption and breach of trust after a trial lasting more than 10 months.

The decision, described as an "absolute acquittal," even though the Prosecutor's office has will appeal.

ng broadly before telecameras, Herr Poullain at even if the prosecution, as he put it, to after a phantom, that not stop him taking up work as soon as possible. verdict of the court in North Rhine-West is noteworthy not only it rejected all the

charges against Herr Poullain, who was the driving force in the creation of West LB through a merger in 1969.

It is also likely to be seen as a key judgment with respect to the role of the Landesbanks, which act, among other things, as central bank for state savings institutions, and the legal status of those who work for them.

The charges centred on a consulting contract which Herr Poullain, now aged 61, had in the late 1960s and early 1970s with Herr Franz Josef Schmidt, a finance broker. Herr Schmidt was later arrested in connection with the collapse of a property group, and West LB put up bail for him with Herr Poullain's approval.

A vital issue was whether Herr Poullain, as head of a

Landesbank—which is jointly owned by a state government, savings banks and regional associations—was a civil servant and thus barred from accepting consulting work.

The court has now accepted Herr Poullain's contention that his contract with the bank was not based on civil service provisions, and has ruled that West LB, in its commercial banking business, is an independent entity, not an instrument of public administration.

Another question was whether Herr Poullain damaged that bank by failing to disclose to his West LB colleagues full details about Herr Schmidt.

In December 1977, Herr Poullain resigned as head of West LB, saying his integrity had been called into question

over the consultancy. A month later the bank decided to sack him (with effect from the day he said he had resigned) on grounds he had flagrantly violated his duty.

The court has now ruled that the sum of DM 1m (£240,000) which Herr Poullain received for the consultancy was suitable, bearing in mind that his advice was sought by many politicians and businessmen. It also found that Herr Poullain had made no secret of his consultancy work to his colleagues nor had he deceived them over the state of Herr Schmidt's business affairs.

● Herr Poullain (right) ... to take up new work as soon as possible in spite of state appeal against verdict.



Norway rig strike curbs drilling

BY FAY GJESTER IN OSLO

EXPLORATION DRILLING in both the British and Norwegian sectors of the North Sea is being delayed by an illegal strike of about 400 officers and men on seven Norwegian-owned mobile rigs—about a quarter of the rigs now operating under the Norwegian flag.

The strikers are seeking pay increases that will bring their earnings up to the level enjoyed by workers on the fixed installations in Norway's sector. Many have resigned from their maritime unions and are trying to form an organisation for "shipping company oil employees." They have disregarded calls from their former unions urging them to resume work.

The rig owner's association is taking a tough line, refusing to

bargain with the strikers and warning—in telegrams to the affected rigs at the weekend—that it intends to sue for compensation.

The association's problem is that it has no way of forcing the strikers to leave the rigs. Most of them have said they will stay until the dispute is settled. Some even say they will try to prevent the rigs from being towed to port, if the rig owners should make such an attempt. While the rigs are at sea, skeleton crews have to be kept aboard for safety reasons, and these crews draw full wages, though they may be performing only safety functions, on an otherwise idle rig.

At the moment, all the owners have been able to do is stop

the supply of newspapers and fresh cassettes for the rigs' video machines—a move which the crews have derided as "childish."

Mr Borre Sverdrup, a director of the association, said the situation on the strikebound rigs is approaching "mass mutiny." The owners cannot afford to give in to offshore activists, as "other employers" have done, he said. "Wage costs do not matter much to the oil companies, but we operate our rigs on a world market."

He said it was time the Norwegian Government showed some political courage and put a stop to the "contagion" of high North Sea wages—before all Norwegian business is ruined.

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OVERSEAS NEWS

Tarapur row on agenda for Haig visit

BY K. K. SHARMA IN NEW DELHI

THE REFUSAL of the U.S. to supply enriched uranium for India's U.S.-built nuclear power station at Tarapur, near Bombay, is expected to be taken up at political level when Mr Alexander Haig, the U.S. Secretary of State, visits New Delhi next month. A series of meetings at official level have failed to resolve the issue.

Mr Haig is to lead the U.S. delegation to a long-delayed meeting of the Indo-U.S. joint commission which was set up some years ago to promote economic and other relations between the two countries. So far, the commission has been unsuccessful and relations between the two countries have been strained for more than two years.

An important reason for this is the U.S. refusal to supply enriched uranium to the Tarapur nuclear power station in terms of a 30-year agreement signed in 1963. Recent U.S. legislation bars supply of nuclear fuel to any country which does not

submit its nuclear installations to international inspection or which refuses to sign the nuclear non-proliferation treaty.

Three rounds of talks between Indian and U.S. officials, the last of which was held in Washington last week, have not resolved the issue. India insists that the U.S. is contractually bound to supply the fuel since legislation cannot be applied retroactively to it.

Alternatively, India says that it will take the view that the U.S. has violated the terms of the agreement and thus unilaterally terminated it. This would entitle India to reprocess spent fuel now stored at Tarapur.

Both countries agree that the 1963 agreement cannot be carried out and want to terminate it. The problem is how to achieve this. The U.S. says the agreement can only be scrapped by mutual agreement which would involve application of safeguards to the spent fuel.

Opposition to IMF loan

BY OUR NEW DELHI CORRESPONDENT

INDIA'S opposition parties have announced that they will strongly oppose the terms on which the recent \$5.7bn (£3bn) loan to India was approved by the International Monetary Fund. They are demanding that the Government should reveal the full contents of its agreement with the IMF.

Mrs Indira Gandhi's Government is thus certain to come under severe attack when

Parliament meets for its winter session next Monday. It is expected that Mr R. Venkataraman, the Finance Minister, will make a statement on the loan early in the session.

The opposition's criticism stems from its belief that the loan will make India a "permanent debtor" and that it will be forced to compromise on policies.

Victory revives Bangladesh's ailing leader

BY KEVIN RAFFERTY IN DACC

JUSTICE Abdus Sattar, who has just been elected Bangladesh's seventh President in less than 10 years of existence, takes over a country with enough problems to tax the powers and energy of Superman. Yet the new President is a sick 75-year-old.

In late May he was taken from a hospital bed where he was undergoing treatment for a heart condition and for diabetes to become acting President in place of the assassinated President Ziaur Rahman. In June he broke down in tears and had to be escorted from the room when he spoke of his love for the murdered President. Yesterday he showed that his election campaign and victory had given him back some health and strength. He was smiling broadly throughout most of his Press conference.

But the happy smile conceals a number of awkward questions, most of which he neatly smiled aside. The presence at his side of several Ministers

The row continued yesterday over Sunday's presidential election in Bangladesh in which Mr Justice Sattar, candidate of the ruling Bangladesh National Party, gained almost 70 per cent of the vote, according to returns put out by the government media.

and leading members of his ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party offered a reminder that Justice Sattar was, in many ways, a compromise candidate, a man who could assume the mantle of President without affecting the long-term succession.

On the crucial question of who will be the Vice-President, Mr Sattar would not commit himself. He would not say when he would choose his deputy or even whether he or the party would make the choice. According to the constitution, the choice belongs to the President

Mr Sattar denied that the election commission had received any complaints of rigging. But the Awami League opposition accused the Government of wholesale rigging, intimidation of voters, violence and ballot stuffing.

and if the President dies the Vice-President becomes acting President until there is a fresh election.

There have been reports that the constitution will be amended to upgrade the Vice-President automatically to President. On this point, Mr Sattar replied: "The constitution will stand unless the party decides otherwise."

At various points, other party members, notably Mr Abul Hasnat, mayor of Dacca, leaned across to prompt Mr Sattar which provoked some speculation that the new President may

need some time to find his feet.

The question of the relationship between the President and other members of the party is the more important because the Bangladesh Nationalist Party was put together by Zia and distinguished most by loyalty to him.

Its members include rightists and leftists, Moslem Leaguers, disgruntled former members of the Awami League which took Bangladesh to independence, former soldiers, plus a good sprinkling of men whose main claim is that they are attracted to power as a moth is to a light.

In spite of his crushing election victory Justice Sattar and the ruling party will now face a new challenge from the opposition Awami League. According to unofficial returns put out by the Government media, Dr Kamal Hossain, the Awami League candidate, secured about 27 per cent of the vote. Dr Hossain has protested that the election was rigged and that

if it had not been, he would have won. He said said that he will challenge the result.

Mr Sattar yesterday put the view that the "army's duty is to defend the sovereignty of the country and I don't think any other role is possible in a democratic country." But when he was asked a follow-up question he was much less certain.

All these political problems are in addition to the difficulty of keeping poverty at bay. In spite of billions of dollars of foreign aid, per capita income in Bangladesh is about \$100 a year, about 60 per cent of the people live below the poverty line, foreign exchange reserves are nearly exhausted and the International Monetary Fund has halted a special facility because of dissatisfaction with credit creation and the performance of government sector corporations. In addition Bangladesh is affected by drought which may cut the main harvest this year by 10



Justice Abdus Sattar, sailing victor

per cent. The new President's first will come shortly when an team arrives in Dacca. Sattar said about the visit: "I shall be able to satisfy that everything is all right Bangladesh." And he said but a smile may not be enough.

Libya accuses U.S. of aiding Chad rebels

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

LIBYA HAS accused the U.S. of aiding rebels opposed to the Government in Chad in the first detailed account of why it decided to withdraw from the central African nation.

Tripoli said in a lengthy background document, that its decision was consistent with a promise to stay in Chad as long as the Government of President Goukhoumi Oueddei wanted and "not a day longer."

Seven Libyan cargo aircraft left Chad yesterday taking with them the last remnants of the Libyan force which has been in the country for nearly a year. Libya is concerned that the

U.S. is backing Sudan and Egypt which are actively supporting the main opponent to President Goukhoumi's Government, Mr Hisssein Habre.

The Libyan document quoted Col Muammer Gaddafi as saying that he had only sent troops in after urgent and repeated appeals from the Chadian Government which was facing increasingly effective resistance from Mr Habre's forces.

Libya's sudden decision to withdraw, taken during the Franco-African summit meeting in Paris earlier this month, led to fears that bitter civil war would again break out in Chad.

Saudi official rebuked for peace plan comments

BEIRUT—Saudi Arabia has denied a statement by its UN envoy that Crown Prince Fahd's eight-point peace plan recognises Israel's right to exist.

The official Saudi news agency yesterday quoted an unidentified official as saying that Press statements by Mr Gaafar Allagany, Saudi Arabia's acting envoy to the UN, "expressed a personal view and out-of-place interpretations."

The official added that the eight points of the plan, which was presented by Crown Prince Fahd last August, were "clear and do not need any explanation."

The New York Times quoted Mr Allagany on Sunday as say-

ing the plan did recognise Israel and that Saudi Arabia was not afraid to say it does recognise Israel. "We are not shying away from the word Israel."

Prince Fahd's plan calls for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

Prince Abdullah, Saudi Arabia's National Guard commander and second Deputy Prime Minister, said in an earlier interview with Time magazine that the plan did imply a recognition of Israel but only after the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

AP

Regan in Peking for economic talks

PEKING — Mr Donald Regan, the U.S. Treasury Secretary, yesterday began a five-day visit to China which he hopes will deepen economic ties between the two countries. Mr Regan is heading a delegation to the second annual meeting of the U.S.-China Economic Committee, which was set up in 1979 when U.S.-China relations were normalised.

Mr Regan said he was particularly interested in U.S. investment in China, but gave no details. U.S. officials said they expected the Chinese to dis-

cuss the heavy balance-of-payments deficit in the U.S. in the 1980s, which is expected to total about \$60bn (£22.2bn) this year.

The U.S. side plans to negotiate on a bilateral income tax treaty and exchange tax information on aviation and shipping.

It will also seek information on China's current economic "readjustment" programme and will explore China's plans to develop offshore oil resources. Reuter.

Difficult decisions for China planners

By Tony Walker in Peking

CHINA'S ECONOMIC planners face a difficult time as they prepare for the National People's Congress — China's parliament and the traditional public forum for a statement of economic policy, which is expected to meet later this month.

China's efforts at reorganising its economy since it signalled a wholesale retreat last year from big-spending capital construction programmes have met with mixed success. At the same time, the country still faces serious economic difficulties.

On the positive side, China has succeeded in reducing last year's budget deficit of \$11bn to an estimated \$2bn this year. It appears to have brought inflation under control, agricultural production is well up in spite of a series of natural disasters—droughts and floods. Light industry grew steadily through the first 10 months of the year, in line with new policies and China had built up to \$500m (£264m) trade surplus by the end of September compared with a deficit at this time last year.

On the negative side, there is a drastic and therefore more troublesome retrenchment in heavy industry, a continuing slowdown in oil production, transport problems, and severe imbalances between various sectors of the economy. China is also facing critical pricing decisions on basic commodities like coal, which is heavily subsidised by the state.

Last year, Yao Yilin, the state Planning Minister, announced heavy spending cuts to reduce a large and unplanned deficit. Within a few months, this policy was overtaken by the announcement of even more severe retrenchments in the national economy and the cancellation or postponement of industrial projects in which foreign companies were involved.

This was, in effect, a second and much more drastic readjustment of the economy than the first, which was instituted at the beginning of 1979 after it was discovered that many of

the ambitious spending announced by then Premier Hua Guofeng, were unreal.

A leading Chinese reported in October that 1 industry output had dropped 7.4 per cent to the end of September, holding down growth in industry to 1.5 per cent despite an increase of 12 per cent in light industry.

The Chinese recognise the slowdown in heavy industry has been too rapid for the health of the economy as a whole and that this trend has to be cautiously reversed. This fact, what appears to be, even though Chinese officials have been denying that a further change of policy is in progress.

Although China's deficit shrank to around \$2bn acting to Vice Premier Gu, revenues will be squeezed least for the next year because of the slow down in heavy industry.

The forthcoming budget will be tight, allowing open increases only in such areas as capital construction, which is but hard in the severe retrenchment of last year.

Western observers here describing Chinese efforts at achieving price stability "impressive." They warn, however, that China risks a bout of inflation because of need to increase the price of basic commodities. The "readjustment" phase Chinese officials from I Xiaoping down have a clear, will continue well the mid-1980s. In fact, China's five year plan, now formulated, is concerned with providing a suitable framework for readjustment, according to senior officials involved in drafting.

Trade surplus of \$500m

BY OUR PEKING CORRESPONDENT

CHINA this weekend reported a trade surplus of \$500m (£264m) for the first nine months of this year, an 11 per cent improvement on the comparable figure for last year and a surprisingly buoyant performance in view of retrenchment in the economy.

Figures released by the state statistical bureau show the Chinese transformed a large trade deficit for the first three months of the year into this healthy surplus.

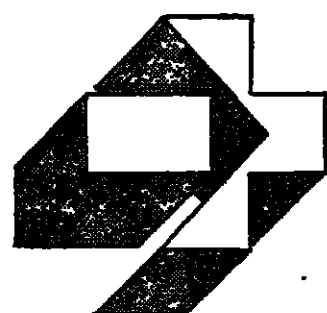
If present trends continue, a surplus for the full year of \$1bn is predicted. This compares with a \$1.3bn deficit last year. A better-than-expected export

performance resulted in sharp increases in export machinery, handicrafts, metals and textiles.

A trade conference ended in Peking at the weekend decided that more export oriented industries should be established in coastal regions. The plan is to increase export from such areas by about 8 per cent over five years.

As a further measure to increase trading contacts, Chinese are this week opening a branch of the Bank of China in New York. The bank already has branches in London, Singapore, Hong Kong and Luxembourg.

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Kirkland launches attack on administration

HARGREAVES IN NEW YORK

MR KIRKLAND, leader of the S. trade union movement, declared "the bankruptcy of monetary policy" and launched a bitter attack on the policies of the Reagan administration, president of the union, used his keynote to the trade union's biennial convention to urge labour to work for the mid-term elections. "These Democrats have a chance to balance power in their favour," he said. "The Reagan administration is a failure. It has brought us a boom and brought us a bust," he said. Mr Kirkland said they had driven unemployment to its highest level since 1939, with 8.5m people out of work, stripped away social benefit programmes and cut the real earnings of workers by 4.4 per cent in the last year. Meanwhile, he said, Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve, had started to blame the failures of monetarist policies upon next year's wage deals. "To grapple for such a flimsy alibi is a sure sign of the final bankruptcy of monetary doctrine," he said. The recent confession of Mr David Stockman, the President's Budget Director, that, in some respects, he never believed in supply side economics and that the programme was essentially a Trojan Horse to give tax cuts to the rich, was the peg for Mr Kirkland's most abusive comments. "He was the original interior decorator of this economic house of ill repute. Now that the sirens are sounding and the bust is due, he has his story ready. He was only the piano player in the parlour, he never knew what was going on upstairs."

Reagan faces clash with Congress over spending

VID BUCHAN IN WASHINGTON

MR REAGAN, with plans for his second year under fire, faces an imminent clash with Congress over the level at which the Federal Government will continue to spend after 1981. A stop-gap resolution under Government has been since October 1 runs out. All 13 appropriations for the current fiscal year, except defence and education, have passed one or more times, but none have been passed by Mr Reagan to sign.

Another stop-gap "continuing resolution" will therefore have to be passed to keep the Federal Government, or large parts of it, in business. The problem is that any action which Congress takes to give tax cuts to the rich, was the peg for Mr Kirkland's most abusive comments. "He was the original interior decorator of this economic house of ill repute. Now that the sirens are sounding and the bust is due, he has his story ready. He was only the piano player in the parlour, he never knew what was going on upstairs."

Trudeau to offer special deal for Quebec

By Victor Mackie in Ottawa

MR PIERRE TRUDEAU, the Canadian Prime Minister, has offered to water down minority language provisions in his proposed charter of rights, and appears now to be edging towards special status for Quebec. Only Mr Rene Levesque, Quebec's Premier, refused to sign a compromise plan on constitutional reform put together at a First Ministers' meeting on November 5. Quebec's resulting isolation has increased political tensions and sparked additional militancy among Parti Quebecois supporters. Quebec Liberal Members of Parliament fear a backlash resulting from the November 5 deal, which Mr Levesque contends is being imposed upon Quebec. Mr Trudeau's Liberal supporters in Quebec are determined to find some accord, if not with Mr Levesque then at least with the Quebec Liberal Party and its leader, Mr Claude Ryan, who favours special status. Speaking to a Quebec City convention of the Federal Liberal Party's Quebec wing at the weekend, Mr Trudeau outlined a series of proposals to meet Quebec's objections. Mr Trudeau said his proposals "supposed, in effect, that we are ready to envisage the kind of Canada where citizens have common values in certain domains, particularly sensitive for Quebec, there will be special protection."

In the name of justice, Mr Trudeau said, the same provisions will have to be proposed to the other provinces. But the proposals still leave room for Quebec to be treated as a special case, particularly on minority rights. Mr Trudeau had three objectives in mind. First, to sell his constitutional package to his fellow Quebecers over the head of Mr Levesque. Second, to heal the rift between his own party and the provincial Liberals, while driving a new wedge between the Federalist forces and the Parti Quebecois. Third, to dispel the impression that the other provinces ganged up on Quebec at the constitutional conference. He appeared to succeed in all three objectives.

Jimmy Burns, recently in Buenos Aires, reports on a country's crisis of confidence Fears trigger run on Argentine currency

THE MONEY changers of downtown Buenos Aires watched scenes verging on street opera last week, as a rush to sell pesos cut 35 per cent from the Argentinian currency's value.

More than a week of hectic trading cut the value of the freely floating financial peso, used in tourism and other business transactions, from \$200 to the dollar to between \$11.050 and \$11.100 to the dollar by Friday. This compares with the peso's value of 2,000 to the dollar at the beginning of the year. Argentina's foreign exchange market has been unstable ever since June, when the peso was split into financial and commercial rates, used for international trade purposes, in a move intended to end overvaluation of the currency. The instability of the financial peso has widened the gap between it and the commercial peso, which continues to be devalued daily and which at the end of last week stood at 6,471 to the dollar.

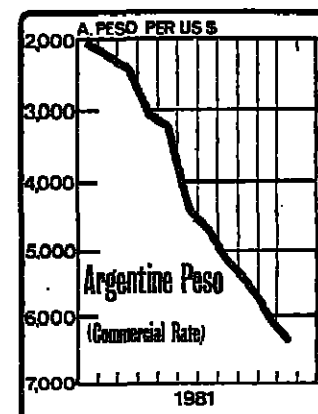
As people queued at the city's exchange houses to offload wads of Argentinian currency, one man carrying a suitcase of cash joked: "It's the national disease. We've got nothing else to spend on or save for."

The most immediate cause of the recent panic was reportedly a rumour that the Government was about to introduce across the board exchange control regulations.

President Roberto Viola and his economic team, who took power in March, inherited an economy which had been severely disrupted by an overvalued peso and was in the throes of a major recession. Sr Lorenzo Sigaut, the Economy Minister, pledged an export-led recovery through a massive devaluation of the peso. Since August, Sr Sigaut has been claiming that the recession has virtually bottomed out and that there are signs of recovery. However, most Argentinian industrialists and businessmen have been more sceptical. It appears that most Argentinians are speculating with their currency because they do not believe—or do not want to believe—in the Government's economic policies. Inflation is running at 115.5 per cent after a 5.8 percentage point rise in the Consumer Price Index last month, compared to a six-year low of 80 per cent last year. Sr Viola's Government has always accepted that its exchange rate policies risk rekindling inflation, but the signs are that it may now be getting out of control. Argentina's precarious economy is not helped by the country's political instability, which is fed, like the run to sell pesos, by daily doses of rumours and counter-rumours. The latest speculation centres on the intentions of Lt-Col Leopoldo Galtieri, the Army Chief of Staff. He is the most powerful member of the three-man military junta and theoretically could push for the removal of members of the Government, including Sr Viola. A recent survey by Fiel, the

private research institute looked at 300 Argentinian companies, which account for 80 per cent of industrial production and concluded that there were no signs of an upturn in activity and that no improvement was expected in the near future. Figures for the first nine months of 1981 show that 1,866 firms have gone bankrupt this year against 533 in the whole of last year. Unemployment, which is officially put at between 4 and 5 per cent, is estimated by independent economists to be running at around 13 per cent. This figure includes those who are underemployed or on short time. Significantly, the first public demonstration against unemployment since the 1976 military coup took place last week in Buenos Aires in spite of a Government ban. Exports have improved but not to the extent predicted by Sr Sigaut. He had hoped for a trade surplus of \$1.1bn (£851m) in 1981 compared to last year's trade deficit of \$2.5bn (£1,322m). Yet privately, the Ministry of Commerce has forecast that trade this year will end up in balance, with imports and exports at around \$9bn each. Agricultural exports have undoubtedly been helped by this year's successive devaluations, yet a drought only narrowly failed to cause a disaster this year, underlining the extreme vulnerability of this important sector of the economy. Rainfall at the end of October has limited damage to the Argentinian wheat crop,

following the drought which began in July. The crop was originally forecast to rise from last year's 7.8m tonnes to 10m tonnes, but production is now expected to be between 7m and 8m tonnes. In industry, perhaps the only cause for optimism in an otherwise gloomy picture has been the recent sign of an upturn in the depressed motor industry, which in the first half of the year saw output fall by more than 35 per cent. Earlier this year Sr Juan Maria Courard, the president of Ford Motor Argentina, publicly criticised the Government's economic record, which he claimed was strangling the industry. However, recently Sr Courard claimed there were signs of an improvement in the motor industry in the last quarter of October, with vehicle



sales up 45 per cent from the previous month. He pledged that Ford Argentina would be manning at full capacity within the next few weeks.

For all its optimism, this sector's apparent recovery is not so much the result of an overall economic policy as of a 7 per cent reduction in motor tax. The rest of industry appears to be waiting for signs that the Government really has sense of economic direction. Most industrialists have given a cautious welcome to a refinancing scheme announced by the Government two weeks ago, although most echo Sr Jacques Kirsch, the president of the Argentine Industrial Union (UIA), who said that it had come too late and was not enough.

The Government, through the Central Bank, has agreed to refinance 50 per cent of private industry's peso debts and 40 per cent of debts incurred by other sectors of the economy. Debts registered on August 31 will be rescheduled for seven years, with a three-year grace period. The scheme aims to reduce company bankruptcies and the involvement of individual banks in any further collapses. Yet it is likely to prove inflationary and put severe strains on next year's budget.

Arguably the latest "bail-out"—in April, in which the Central Bank announced a rediscount facility to help banks renew overdue loans, will do nothing to improve the efficiency of many firms in need of major structural reorganisation.

Mexico tries to halt outflow

BY WILLIAM CHISLETT IN MEXICO CITY

THE Mexican Government has further tightened peso credit in order to stem the growing preference of Mexicans to hold deposits in dollars and to curtail the outflow of capital from the country. The peso is freely convertible.

Commercial banks, on the insistence of the Banco de Mexico, the central bank, have bought a further 5bn pesos (£106m) in three-month Government Treasury Bills known as cetes.

At the same time the 10bn pesos of cetes, which banks were obliged by the Government to buy in August, have been kept on deposit for a further three

months. This means that a total of 15bn pesos has been taken out of the banking system in the past four months.

The central bank's move is part of Government moves to cool down the overheated Mexican economy by restricting private sector credit.

The \$4 a barrel cut in Mexican oil prices in June created devaluation fears which led to significant flights of capital. One senior Mexican banker estimates the amount at \$3.5bn since June, most of it in June and July.

At the same time, there has

been a noted increase in new deposits in dollars as opposed to pesos.

Both capital flight and the "dollarisation" process have greatly declined in the past two months. Nevertheless, the Government is still being restrictive in its monetary policy.

Meanwhile, the differential between the interest paid on peso and on dollar deposits in Mexico is now at its highest level in order to attract pesos.

There is now a 20 point difference between the interest rate for a year's peso deposits, which is 34 per cent, and dollars.

Venezuelan President set for Washington talks

BY KIM RUAD IN CARACAS

PRESIDENT Luis Herrera Campins, of Venezuela, whose Social Christian administration strongly supports the ruling junta in El Salvador and opposes Cuban-backed revolutionaries, was due to arrive in Washington last night for three days of "essentially political" talks with President Ronald Reagan.

The talks are expected to centre on problems in the Caribbean and Central America, but will also include broader international issues as well as bilateral relations. The Venezuelan Government's foreign policy has drawn strong

fire from the country's political opposition, including the Accion Democratica Party and the Social Democratic Organisation which has alternated in power with the Social Christians in Venezuela since 1959.

Critics see, in the U.S. Government decision to sell the Venezuelan Administration a squadron of F-16 fighter-bombers, reward for supporting U.S. efforts to halt Cuban-type revolutionaries in the Caribbean and Central America. Venezuela, however, has strongly opposed military intervention or blockade of Cuba, as suggested by some U.S. officials.

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WORLD TRADE NEWS

Cars-for-oil
barter with
Algeria
denied

By Our Far East Editor in Tokyo

NICHIMEN, one of Japan's big general trading companies, yesterday denied that it had arranged a cars-for-oil barter deal with Algeria's state machinery import corporation.

Instead, the company claims to have arranged two independent transactions, one involving the sale of 15,000 Honda cars (worth about \$28m) and the other involving a purchase of 500,000 barrels of oil. The coincidence of these two transactions is "natural" for general trading companies, which handles many different types of products, Nichimen says.

The Nichimen denial was made after a Japanese daily newspaper reported over the weekend that the company had made the first deal involving an exchange of manufactured products for oil. Since a number of Arab oil exporters have proposed such deals, the Nichimen case could have become an important precedent if explicitly recognised as barter.

Honda said that the company had sold 15,000 cars to Nichimen "for export to Algeria" but denied any direct knowledge of, or involvement in, barter arrangements. Honda's car sales to the Middle East are normally made through its own channels, not through trading companies. The only previous sale through a trading company occurred last April when Honda sold 8,000 cars to Nichimen.

EUROPEAN GOODS COULD BE SOLD IN THIRD MARKETS

Japan 'can help EEC to balance trade'

BY CHARLES SMITH, FAR EAST EDITOR IN TOKYO

JAPANESE general trading companies may not be able to contribute much to reducing the EEC-Japan trade imbalance by increasing their direct imports of European goods. But they can help the EEC to balance its trade on a global basis by selling European goods in third markets.

This is the view of Mr Kutsujiro Ikeda, new president of Marubeni Corporation, the fourth largest Japanese trading company. Mr Ikeda says that on recent visits to Europe and the U.S., he was asked by businessmen to help sell their goods on a global basis.

Marubeni — and other big Japanese trading companies — have already begun to do this, with "third country" trade, in Marubeni's case, accounting for 17 per cent of total turnover.

Mr Ikeda cites some \$1bn (£526m) worth of Nigerian power station contracts, in which the French civil engineering company, Bouygues, played an important role, as an example of a "split contract" arranged by Marubeni on behalf of Japanese and European clients.

A contract in which a U.S. company was involved was Marubeni's sale of \$74.2m of power generating machinery to the Venezuelan national electricity generating company, Cadafé. Some \$83m worth of the total contract consisted of gas turbine generators manufactured by GE.

Marubeni has yet to sign a plant contract involving important third country sales for a

A SPECIAL meeting of four Japanese Ministers concerned with economic policy, and the Minister of Agriculture, will be held tomorrow to try to decide how Japan should increase its imports of manufactured and processed goods, writes our Far East Editor in Tokyo.

One of the main proposals certain to be tabled is that Japan should bow to European demands for cuts in its tariffs on whisky, biscuits, sugar confectionery and chocolates.

British company, but Mr Ikeda claims his company was partly responsible for Molins Tobacco Machinery receiving a major order for cigarette-making machines from Iraq last June.

Marubeni was Molins' Japanese agent until Japan's tobacco monopoly started building its own machines using Molins' technology. It was able to "create confidence" in Molins among Iraqi officials.

Japanese general trading companies are good at putting together multinational packages for plant contracts, for the simple reason that they have more overseas offices and more qualified staff stationed round the world than any other type of organisation, says Mr Ikeda.

Marubeni maintains 140 overseas offices, staffed by 1,000 Japanese executives and 2,500 foreign staff.

The Ministries of International Trade and Industry and Foreign Affairs are in favour of such cuts. But the Agriculture Ministry is strongly opposed to the last three while the Finance Ministry — for revenue reasons — wants to maintain the present high tariff on Scotch whisky.

Tomorrow's meeting looks like developing into a confrontation between the two ministries which favour tariff cuts and the two which are against. The Economic Plan-

The resulting high overheads mean that Marubeni's profit ratio is low — only 0.325 per cent of turnover on a recent business period. Other nations have yet to produce trading companies that maintain worldwide branch networks — although some are now trying because they have never faced the same amount of compulsion as Japan to develop sales in unfamiliar foreign markets, Mr Ikeda says.

The comprehensive branch networks of the Japanese trading companies enable them to offer flexible financing to potential customers he points out. A trading company speciality is the loan of Eurodollars or other international currencies to finance the down payments that developing nations are often required to make on infrastructure projects before they can qualify for low

interest rate official aid. "We can make such loans because we normally have a better knowledge of local conditions than a bank, and because we are not dealing directly with depositors' money."

Mr Ikeda's final point about the trading companies is that — like all Japanese companies — they will have to stress profitability more than they did in the past.

"In our case this means that we will have to become investment-oriented, as well as trade oriented."

Investment could include specialised high technology manufacturing enterprises in Europe but is also likely to mean more involvement by trading companies in multi-billion dollar resource development projects.

In the latter case the trading

company will seek to ensure that risks are spread among a variety of partners. No Japanese trading company wishes to repeat the mistake of Mitsui (the second biggest) in becoming the sole partner with Iran in the ill-fated Bandar Khomeini petrochemical complex.



Kutsujiro Ikeda... fresh strategy

Brussels talks today
in bid to heal rift
over textile imports

BY GILES MERRITT IN BRUSSELS

EEC TRADE Ministers meet in Brussels today in a third attempt to settle their differences over the low-cost textiles import regime that the European Commission should propose to Third World countries.

They do so with less than 24 hours to go before Commission officials are to attend the opening round of talks in Geneva on the renewal of the Multi-fibre Arrangement (MFA) for 1982-86. Should the Ministers of the Ten fail to agree a common stance, the EEC negotiators will in practice be excluded from the talks on a new world textiles trade pact.

The chances of an EEC position on textiles imports emerging from today's Council of Ministers meeting are, nevertheless, being regarded as slim, even though a fresh compromise plan is to be put forward by the Brussels Commission.

Officials put the likelihood of a breakthrough at less than when the Trade Ministers attempted unsuccessfully to tackle the textiles issue in Luxembourg on October 27 and in Brussels a week ago.

The revised Commission plan aims, however, to establish common ground between those EEC countries insisting that a sternly protectionist MFA deal be

struck by the European Community with the 28 developing countries involved, and those that maintain that the MFA trade liberalisation character be preserved.

Numbering France, the and Italy, the protectionist states are clearly a major force inside the EEC, but far against them are six countries led by West Germany.

The Commission compromise attempts to ally Bonn's of a protectionist package would lead to retaliation against West German textile exports by improving the fact that the Third World export would have to EEC markets.

But it also includes devices for EEC governments employ if they wish to halt disruptive surges of low-cost sales so that the overall effect of the proposals is still so restrictive as to imply a reduction in the volume of textiles EEC will accept.

There are growing doubts that the textile export countries will be prepared to accept such a package, those are reinforced by recent U.S. move toward ending up a move liberalisation protocol could be the of a renewed MFA.

South Africans dismiss
steel subsidy charges

BY BERNARD SIMON IN JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH AFRICAN steel exporters have dismissed charges that they have invoked government subsidies to assist their marketing efforts in the U.S. They also denied selling below the U.S. Government's "trigger" prices.

Reacting to the announcement by the U.S. Commerce Department that the pricing of carbon steel plate imports from South Africa — among other countries — is to be investigated, Mr Robert Herberston, general sales manager of Highveld Steel, said: "There are no real subsidies in our steel industry."

Highveld, a subsidiary of the Anglo American group, and the state-owned producer Iscor is the only exporter of primary steel products to the U.S. South

Africa accounts for just over 1 per cent of American imports of carbon steel plate, neither Iscor nor Highveld disclose precise tonnages.

Mr Bill Manley, Iscor's manager, said that "we stuck to trigger prices" but added that quantities by South Africa were small compared to those shipped countries such as Belgium.

According to Iscor, its exports to the U.S. have risen in the four years since the inception of the trigger system.

Iscor disclosed last week its total steel exports of 1.2m tons in the year to end of June 1981, from 1.7m tons in the previous months.

UK companies win Saudi
orders for trucks, trailers

BY JOHN GRIFFITHS

ORDERS for the supply to Saudi Arabia of heavy duty trucks, trailers and parts worth more than £7.6m have been signed by ERF and Crane Fruehauf.

The orders were negotiated separately, but all the vehicles and equipment will be used in haulage operations for the Saudi state-owned Arabian American Oil Company.

The ERF order is the single biggest in the Sandbach, Cheshire, based truckmaker's history. It is for 130 heavy-duty trucks and parts worth £4.8m and includes an option for the purchaser to take at least a

further 60.

The Crane Fruehauf contract is for the supply of 295 semi-trailers of between 40 and 75 tonnes capacity worth more than £2.8m. It is the single biggest export order taken by the Dereham, Norfolk, trailer-maker for more than three years.

Although ERF has previously sold 200 trucks into the Saudi market, it is clear that the company regards this latest contract as a major breakthrough.

It is with a Saudi-British consortium, Taseco-TMS. Taseco is a major contractor to Aramco and operates a fleet of 4,500 vehicles in Saudi Arabia.

Taiwan deal
worth £8.8m
for RSV

By Michael van Os in Amsterdam

RSV, the Dutch shipbuilding and engineering concern, has won an order worth about £14m (£8.8m) from Taiwan to construct a storage and receiving terminal for refrigerated liquid petroleum gas (LPG) for the Tainan refinery at Kaohsiung.

The project will be completed halfway through 1983 and be carried out by RSV's Flushing-based subsidiary RSV Montage. The order has been received from the Central Trust of China on behalf of the Chinese Petroleum Corporation.

Eximbank has 12% lending rate

BY PAUL CHEESERIGHT, WORLD TRADE EDITOR

THE EXPORT-IMPORT Bank of the U.S. (Eximbank) yesterday started to apply a lending rate of 12 per cent, at the same time as a rise in the interest rates covered by the international agreement on export credit guidelines came into effect.

The new Eximbank rate is 1.25 percentage points higher than the rate which has obtained since July. The new international rates, agreed last month, are between 10 and 11.25 per cent.

Financially troubled by the prospect of a \$200m deficit in the year to next September, Eximbank is now expected to become increasingly selective in its lending.

Officials expect that marginal cases will be weeded out and that where official financing is unlikely to swing contracts towards the U.S., it will not be used. Only price competitive companies will be supported.

Although the timing of the Eximbank move was influenced by the coming into effect of the new international rates, officials have noted that Eximbank is still having to borrow money at a higher rate than that at which it has been lending.

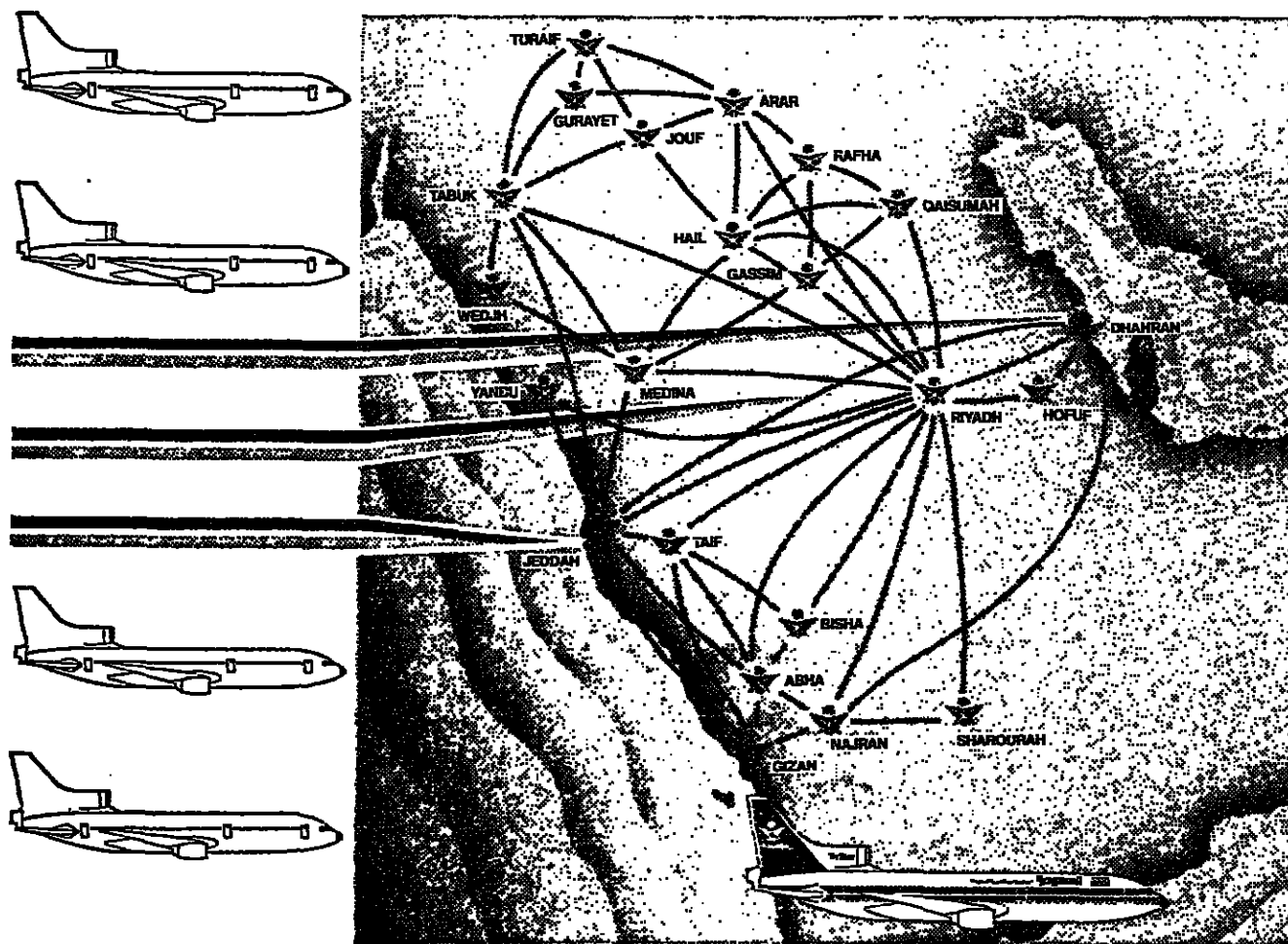
Recent funds have been obtained from the Federal Financing Bank, an arm of the U.S. Treasury, at around 15 per cent. At the beginning of December, Eximbank will seek

further finance, and the rate then is expected to be 13-14 per cent.

The higher level of interest rates Eximbank is charging has led to a search for new methods of financing.

By the end of the year the U.S. Treasury is expected to have decided whether it will permit Eximbank to borrow yen, so that they can be on-lent at 9.25 per cent. Yen financing has been afforded a special rate under the international agreement.

The Treasury is assessing whether Eximbank should take on foreign exchange risks and, if so, how they should be managed.

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This, believe it or not, shows how Shell goes recruiting its marine ecologists.

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Long Kong bank 'would divulge its assets'

By Michael Sandberg, Scottish Correspondent in Hong Kong

MICHAEL SANDBERG, of the Hong Kong Standard Banking Corporation, said yesterday that his bank's assets as part of a takeover bid for the Royal Bank of Scotland presented no problem, but his would not release them.

The board of the Royal Bank has said it wants to merge with Standard and Chartered.

Mr Sandberg, in an interview with a group of journalists from Scotland, said his bank was ready to disclose assets to any reputable authority such as the Bank of England.

"It's no problem at all, we're rather proud of them," But he added: "We are not in a position to disclose unilaterally. It would have to be an industry-wide decision."

A disclosure of assets is not essential in Hong Kong and indeed has been cited as one of the reasons for the success of the island colony as a financial centre.

Mr Sandberg said Scotland had every reason to be sensitive

about the independence of the bank. "History has shown that control over a great deal of Scottish companies has gone down the high road to London."

But he insisted that the Royal Bank would have autonomy and independence should the Hong Kong bid go through. "We cannot run the bank in Scotland from Hong Kong any more than we can run a bank in North America from Hong Kong," he said of the take-over of the Marine Midland Bank in New York State last year.

Representatives of the American bank were brought in to testify to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission "to show when we mean autonomy and independence, we mean it."

Explaining the bank's desire to expand, Mr Sandberg said

the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank had grown out of Hong Kong although it would not be turning its back on it. Hong Kong represented roughly 30 per cent of the bank's business.

He said the bank had good relations with the Bank of England. "If anything, we've been accused of being too conservative in our banking outlook."

Mr Sandberg countered suggestions that to improve the bank's image abroad it should divest some of its non-banking activities. The bank owns a Hong Kong newspaper and has wide shipping and airline interests and is active in the Hong Kong property market.

Non-banking activities represented only 2 per cent of the company's total assets, he said.

Astra target is 60,000 a year, says Vauxhall

By Nick Garnett, Northern Correspondent

VAUXHALL MOTORS hopes to produce 60,000 Astras a year from its Ellesmere Port site, providing there is sufficient demand.

The first UK-assembled Astra was driven off the production line at the site yesterday by Mr Ferdinand Beickler, the company's chairman and managing-director.

The initial production target for the car is 10 vehicles an hour on a single shift by the end of this month, rising to 15 an hour.

Part of the company's production plan is the introduction of double shifting as early as spring next year, if demand warrants.

Chevrolet production levels at the site of 22 vehicles an hour will be reduced as the Astras are raised.

But no decision has been taken on phasing out the Chevrolet, which is consistently within the top 10 car selling league in the UK. The capacity of Ellesmere Port is about 100,000 vehicles of all types a year.

Mr Beickler said yesterday the total UK content of the Astra — including labour and planned operating costs as well as components — was just under 50 per cent.

The site will assemble all the Astras with the exception of the 1.2 litre saloon, which will be sourced solely from West Germany. The 1.6 litre engine model is due to begin production next week.

General Motors is hoping to raise the Vauxhall and Opel share of the UK market from about 9 per cent to 16 per cent by 1985.

Part of that hope rests on the building of the new small 8-car at Zaragoza, Spain, due to come on stream in 1983.

Air traffic figures delay decision on Gatwick terminal

By Michael Donne, Aerospace Correspondent

THE GOVERNMENT has postponed a decision on the proposed £150m second passenger terminal at Gatwick Airport, Sussex, to enable revised air traffic forecasts for London and South-East England to be studied in greater depth.

The report from Judge John Newey, QC, the government-appointed Inspector at last year's public planning inquiry into the proposed terminal favoured the development of the second terminal. However, his decision was based on figures of anticipated air traffic growth compiled some time ago.

Substantially lower estimates of air traffic growth have since emerged from the report of the Department of Trade's Working Party on Air Traffic Forecasting.

As a result, Mr Michael Heseltine, Environment Secretary, and Mr John Biffn, Trade Secretary, have felt obliged to allow those who objected to the second terminal at the public inquiry to make further direct written representations to the ministers, before a decision is taken.

The same right is granted to those who favour the second terminal, such as the British Airports Authority. All parties have 21 days from November 13 in which to make their revised submissions. There will be studied by the two ministers before they decide.

The public inquiry into the second Gatwick terminal, designed to raise the airport's capacity from 16m to 25m passengers a year, ran from January 29 to July 11 last year.

Judge Newey recommended in his report that planning permission for the second terminal should be granted.

But he also recommended that another planning bid, for the development of 83 hectares of land for the provision of a new aircraft maintenance and cargo area, should be rejected.

He based his recommendations on forecasts that traffic would reach 55m passengers a

year in the London area by 1985, rising to 60m a year by 1990, and 62m a year by 2000.

The subsequent report from the Trade Department's Working Party on Air Traffic Forecasting suggested that, by 1985, the London area would have 44.5m passengers a year (at the low end of the scale) and a "high" of 50.9m. By 1990, these figures would have risen to a low of 52.6m and a high of 70.3m, while by the end of the century the low figure would be 67.9m and the high 110.9m.

The ministers were originally in favour of accepting Judge Newey's recommendations, granting permission for the passenger terminal but rejecting the maintenance and cargo area.

The revised traffic forecasts, however, amount to "new, relevant evidence which needs to be taken into account before the applications are finally decided."

The ministers make it clear that they are prepared to consider only those written submissions which relate to the effects of the revised traffic forecasts. They are not prepared to reopen the entire inquiry.

Examination of new submissions is expected to take several weeks, and the ministers' final decision is unlikely until some time in the New Year.

Any eventual refusal by the two ministers of the second terminal would have far-reaching implications.

It would have a considerable impact on the British Airports Authority's case for the development of Stansted Airport, Essex, which is based on the need for additional airport capacity in the London area with Gatwick developed to cope with 25m passengers a year.

Failure to develop Gatwick would be bound to encourage the authority to urge the development of Stansted to a much higher level than the 15m target currently envisaged.

Borrowing boost for BA and airports

By Michael Donne

THE OVERALL borrowing limits of British Airways and the British Airports Authority will be increased substantially under a new Civil Aviation Bill, published yesterday.

BA's limit, set at £1bn, will be raised to £1.2bn, with provision for two further rises by ministerial order to £1.4bn and £1.6bn.

The aim is to make it possible for BA to borrow what it needs to finance its fleet expansion, including 19 new Boeing 757 jet airliners, already on order, with options on another 21 aircraft. BA's current debt is over £782m.

The British Airports Authority borrowing powers will be raised from £125m to £200m, with provision to raise it further to £300m by 1985.

This will enable the authority to raise the cash for new airport developments, including the fourth terminal at Heathrow, now under way, and the possible second terminal at Gatwick.

These and other developments are expected to take up to £768m over the next five years, much of which the authority expects to meet from internally generated funds. At last March 31, outstanding borrowings by the authority amounted to £61.5m.

Robin Reeves writes: Cardiff-Wales Airport's local authority operating subsidy is to be cut by £150,000, or 12.5 per cent, next year as a result of a better than expected income in the past 12 months.

The airport's operating deficit for 1981-82 has turned out to be only £336,200 compared with a forecast figure of nearly £870,000.

There was a higher than expected income from landing fees and from the number of international flight passengers, and from rents, concessions and freight.

Heavyweight Strathclyde digs in its heels

Mark Meredith examines the resistance to growing Scottish Office control

HELVYDE, the heavy- of Scottish councils covers Glasgow and the industrial Scotland, has to resist the increasing of the Scottish Office local government finance.

George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, has his considerable powers (holding rate support from Lethian regional in Edinburgh. But now nts extra powers from cent which would enable o order Scottish local ides (which have no impose supplementary o reduce their rates and money to ratepayers.

hclde officials argue e council would be un- penalised over element- nditure which it cannot and that increasing government restrictions inhibit a council's ability

to exercise its democratic rights. Strathclyde, the largest region in Scotland, is regarded within the Scottish Office as a moderate, well-run council with spending only 3.6 per cent above central government guidelines, so its protests are likely to carry some weight.

The region's counter-offensive is very different from the noisy scral during the summer between Mr Younger and Lethian when Lethian refused to reduce spending which was said to be £68m over Scottish Office guidelines and ended up cutting £30m when Mr Younger withdrew their rate support grant.

Lethian lost that battle and in the view of Labour colleagues

in Strathclyde, the Edinburgh council did considerable damage to the cause of Scottish local government by making such a political stand only to carry out most of the required savings without significant effect on services or manning.

Strathclyde's argument is that its transport system, potential appeals on rate assessments and the level of interest rates are all outside their control.

The council had suddenly to pay up £22m last year to cover the deficit in the transport system and £10m in repayments because of rate assessment appeals. Its debt service climbed from £145m to £161m this year.

The region had an expenditure of £1.1bn last year and a rate support grant from

Government of about £715m or 66.7 per cent of so called "relevant expenditure."

Mr Younger, who will pay out £1.553m in rate support grants to Scottish councils this year is trying to claw back about £35m from the councils. He has already recovered £24m in selective cuts, most of it in the row with Lethian.

He is also trying to get back between £40m and £68m from the 1980-81 budgets of councils following an unsuccessful attempt to bring about savings through voluntary means.

Strathclyde said this week it stands to lose £43m in Government grants this year: £27m from Mr Younger's planned cash cuts, and £16m from the 1980-81 period and a further £40m from the current year's budget.

This is calculated on the basis that the Secretary of State's cuts are distributed across the board and Strathclyde gets about 45 per cent of all grant payments in Scotland.

Mr Younger is likely to make the final amount of savings clear when he meets officials of Scottish councils later this year to announce the rate support grant. The Scottish Office refuses to comment on Strathclyde's calculations.

ry leader on AC urges finance reform

By Eric Griffiths

ORACE CUTLER, Tory y group leader on the London Council, said ay that local govern- finance should be re- as part of an overall package. This should introduction of nega- come tax, the system y tax credits are ed in taxable income, y abolishing the poverty

king at University Col- School, Hampstead, he e separate categories of tic and non-domestic yer should disappear. should be provision in ational tax and benefit to offset all or part of st of local government s against tax liabilities. e individual bills were nomic or feasible, costs be combined and i to the resident popu- is a poll-tax, he said. government finance crisis. Government- d laws on financial con- tained local authori- omy, he said.

Legislation only partial key to pension problem

By Eric Short

PENSION FUNDS have not set out deliberately to take advantage of those employees who change jobs.

Mr James Stretton, pensions manager of the Standard Life Assurance Company said that treatment of early leavers had remained in its present form because employees had not really valued their pension benefit on changing jobs and thus had not exerted pressure for change.

Mr Stretton was speaking in Edinburgh at a Faculty of Actuaries discussion on the transfer of pension rights on change of jobs.

He referred to the recent report by the Occupational Pensions Board on preserving pension rights for employees who change jobs. This report recommended that the deferred pension available to early leavers should be revalued in line with National Average Earnings, with a statutory requirement on employers to revalue by at least 5 per cent each year.

Mr Stretton thought that

legislation of the type proposed would not solve the problems of early leavers because it would only be at best a partial solution and would take many years before it had any appreciable effect. He added that the methods proposed by the Board would not be understood by employees because of their complexity.

He hoped that changes in benefit for early leavers would come in response to educated pressure from employees and their trade union representatives rather than from legislation.

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UK NEWS — PARLIAMENT and POLITICS

LABOUR

Paisley Unionists banned from Commons

BY JOHN HUNT, PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT

IN SOME of the most explosive scenes the Commons has witnessed over Northern Ireland, the Rev Ian Paisley and two other Democratic Unionist MPs were yesterday ordered out of the chamber and banned from the House for five days.

Shouting interruptions from an upper gallery Mr Paisley (Antrim N), Mr Peter Robinson (Belfast E) and Mr John McQuade (Belfast N) reduced the proceedings to chaos. Twice the speaker, Mr George Thomas, had to suspend the sitting for 10 minutes.

The outbursts came while Mr James Prior, Northern Ireland Secretary, was making a statement on the weekend murder of the Rev Robert Bradford (Official Ulster Unionist, Belfast S).

It must have been a discouraging and impressive reaction for Mr Prior, who had just been appealing for restraint by the Protestant and Catholic communities in the wake of the killings.

Just as the speaker, Mr Thomas, was about to resume the Government front bench, was the response of Mr Enoch Powell (Official Ulster Unionist, South Down).

In a bitter intervention he said the killing was the IRA's response to Mrs Thatcher's attempts at Downing Street last week to achieve a closer understanding with the Irish Republic.

Despite this, Mr Prior made it clear to the House that the Government was determined to

press ahead with the establishment of the Anglo Irish Council to improve co-operation between London and Dublin.

The House was in a sombre and tense mood when Mr Prior was eventually questioned on his statement. Several MPs warned that the province is now on the verge of civil war.

The House heard tributes to Mr Bradford, including one from Mr Paisley, who said that he would like to believe that this was the last such killing but predicted that before Christmas "there will be other vacant seats in this House."

The Speaker, in a conciliatory gesture, announced that in the present circumstances he was prepared to take no further action over the interruptions which Mr Paisley had made in the Commons last week.

But Mr Paisley's group obviously had no intention of taking up this olive branch. Half-way through Mr Prior's statement Mr Robinson started to yell: "The blood of Ulster is on your hands. You are the guilty man."

As Mr Prior tried to continue, Mr McQuade rose and shouted: "We have heard all this before. We are sick and tired of it."

The Speaker warned him that he must resume his seat or he would be ordered out of the chamber. At this point Mr Robinson pointed at Mr Thatcher and cried: "There she is, the guilty woman. The blood of Ulster is on your hands. You are guilty of the murder of my people."

The Speaker then suspended the House for 10 minutes. As MPs trooped out Mr Paisley pointed an accusing finger at the Earl of Gowrie, Minister of State for Northern Ireland, who was sitting in the Peers Gallery.

"The man who wants union with the Republic—there he sits," Mr Paisley shouted.

When the House resumed the Speaker named the three MPs for gross disorderly conduct and announced their suspension. This brought a great roar of approval from MPs and loud chants of "out, out!"

The fury increased as the three refused to leave and the Speaker again suspended the House for 10 minutes. The spectacle took on an air of farce as Mr Paisley walked to the edge of the press gallery and apparently started to give an interview to a Press Association reporter—a sight which further angered MPs.

The Sergeant-at-Arms, Sir Peter Thorne, went up to escort the three off the premises and the Speaker warned that if he so much as touched their arms they would be suspended for the rest of the parliamentary session.

Mr Walter Harrison, Labour's chief whip, seemed to be playing the role of mediator to persuade Mr Paisley to see reason. Eventually, Mr Paisley and Mr Robinson stalked out. But there was a further touch of comedy when Mr Paisley had to return to shout in Mr McQuade's ear to tell him what was going on and persuade him to leave too.

In the exchanges after Mr Prior's statement Mr Powell claimed that the events of the weekend were a sequel and to a large extent a consequence of what had been agreed at last week's meeting between Mrs Thatcher and Dr Garret FitzGerald, the Irish premier.

"They are therefore guilty of this consequence, of which they were warned," he said, ignoring angry shouts of "onsense."

But instead they continue to follow the advice of those who had persistently misled this Government and its predecessors.

"Will the Secretary of State at least refrain from pumping petrol upon the flames by referring to things like political progress and agreement that indicate to those in Northern Ireland that the Government shares if not the methods at any rate the aims of the IRA."

This last remark brought furious shouts of "disgraceful" from MPs.

There were cheers of support for Mr Jo Grimond (Lib Orkney and Shetland) when he said: "It is quite clear now that the IRA are bent on creating anarchy in Northern Ireland and certain members of this House are pursuing the same aim."

He warned that it was now only the security forces that stood between the population and civil war.

Mr James Kilfedder (Ulster Unionist, Down N) complained that for the last 12 years the House had heard the same

"Pompous, meaningless remarks" about security and the need for calm in the province. He too warned that unless the Government took urgent steps to root out terrorism "then Northern Ireland will move inexorably to a state of civil war."

Mr Gerry Fitt (Independent, Belfast W.) said the Catholic community was totally at one with Mr Prior on whatever steps he took to eradicate terrorism.

Mr Ivor Stanbrook (Con, Orkington) called on the Government to reconsider its apparent withdrawal of support from the principle of Unionism. He claimed that such a withdrawal had been made at last week's summit in London.

A particularly bitter intervention came from Mr Harold McCusker (Official Ulster Unionist, Armagh) who asked if Mr Prior had any conception of what it meant to have 200 people killed in one's constituency and then be lectured in the Commons about the need for calm and moderation.

In his statement to the House Mr Prior said the aim of the IRA was quite deliberately to use the murders to provoke further murders. They wanted to stimulate and intensify sectarian hatred in order to create chaos and further their long term objectives.

He pledged that the Government was resolute in its commitment to maintain security in Northern Ireland and in its determination to frustrate the aims of the terrorists.

Further Ford talks raise hopes of lifting strike call

BY IVO DAWNEY, LABOUR STAFF

FURTHER TALKS between Ford management and the company's 13 trade unions were announced, raising hopes that strike action scheduled for November 24 would be called off.

Mr Ron Todd, the unions' chief negotiator, said he was "slightly more optimistic" about a settlement after informal discussions yesterday with Mr Paul Roots, the company's industrial relations director.

Both sides have agreed to a full meeting of the Ford national joint negotiating committee next Monday.

Mr Todd, who will report back on Thursday to a full meeting of trade union repre-

sentatives of the company's 54,000 workers, remained adamant that the unions were seeking an improvement in the company's 4.5 per cent offer. They would not be prepared to discuss raising efficiency if that involved financial penalties for plants that failed to meet newly imposed standards.

The unions are demanding a £20 increase in basic rates. Under the current management offer, workers would be paid an increase amounting to 4.5 per cent on basic rates and allowances, allowances if five principles to raise efficiency are accepted. Additional payments for improved working practices would only be paid after monitoring on a plant-by-plant basis.

Yesterday's announcement further talks between the sides suggests that Ford may be prepared to contemplate a means of introducing a saving programme, while in fact any increase in costs must be offset by improved efficiency.

The Ford unions warned that if strike action ahead they would call on company's workforce in Europe for support.

Under the company's previous offer, Grade B workers on a normal day and night shift (Ford's largest group of workers) would receive a 4.5 per cent increase in basic pay to £97.52 to £101.52.

BL management claims victory as teabreak cuts are accepted

BY ARTHUR SMITH, MIDLANDS CORRESPONDENT

MORE THAN 50 per cent of BL cars' 55,000 manual workers have accepted cuts in tea breaks and reduced relaxation time, the company claimed last night.

BL said more than two-thirds of its 36 plants are working the system necessary to finance the introduction of the 39-hour week.

But full acceptance still has to be gained at the two big assembly plants of Longbridge, Birmingham and Cowley, Oxford.

Further efforts to break the deadlock are expected today at Longbridge, where 2,200 workers walked out last week in protest at the proposed cut in tea breaks.

Their action has halted production of the Metro, Mini and Allegro models and caused the lay-off of more than 6,000 other workers at Longbridge and in factories supplying components.

BL management will be meeting Longbridge senior stewards and full time officials today in the hope of finding a formula for a return to work.

The strikers are not due to meet until Thursday, but BL is anxious to halt the dispute

as quickly as possible. The company is likely to stress that the strikers took precipitate action and that they should return to work to allow full consultation so that the reduced relaxation time can be introduced smoothly.

Some sections of the Longbridge workforce have accepted the company's proposals. However, the men who walked out are on the final assembly track where feelings about the company's success in imposing a 3.8 per cent pay deal tend to run highest.

Assembly workers, subject to the discipline of the pace of the track, tend to be younger and more militant. But the company clearly believes that

through consultation it can support.

The Longbridge strikers clearly will come under some pressure with the news that workers have accepted proposals. Among those taking 4,000 employees at Rover, Solihull, Birmingham.

The key test for the moment after Longbridge will be to persuade the worker Cowley, where the success of the Teal plan is in question.

Trouble from some sections of workers had been expected as Cowley took a strong line opposing the recent pay and voted to continue action despite the warning possible closure.

Charities Aid donations up

CHARITIES were given £13.6m through the Charities Aid Foundation in the year to April—more than £1.6m higher than a year earlier—the annual report shows.

The report outlines the successful CAF campaign to publicise the new higher-rate

tax relief on deed of gifts, which have grown steadily in the year.

The covenant administrator for charities of 48,000 deeds with a gross of £3m, up 26 per cent, than 200 charities use service.

Dunstable accepts Vauxhall off

BY JOHN LLOYD, LABOUR CORRESPONDENT

MANUAL workers at Vauxhall's plant at Dunstable have voted to accept the company's 5 per cent pay offer by a margin of about two to one.

The acceptance follows a similar vote at the company's largest plant at Luton, and means the deal is now certain to be accepted company-wide.

Stewards at the company's third plant, at Ellesmere Port, have recommended acceptance by manual workers there in a vote to be taken later this week.

The settlement would be the highest yet in the motor industry, and puts pressure on Ford to improve its 4.5 per cent

offer. It includes a reduction of the working week from 40 to 39 hours, conditional on dropping the two-minute break on Friday afternoon.

So far, only one group of workers—the 400 members of the Electrical and Plumbing Trades Union at Luton—have turned down the offer, which had previously been rejected by union negotiators at both local and national level.

Dunstable stewards had put the offer to the mass meeting yesterday without a recommendation. They stressed afterwards that the vote for acceptance did not mean the

workers were satisfied with Colin Gibbs, convenor of the Transport and General Workers' Union at Dunstable, said yesterday that his members were concerned about the depressed state of the market, and about the situation of Dunstable into GM's world truck offer.

He said a new truck plant was being completed in Taiwan in 1982, could take much of GM's Far East market, and that the Japanese truck company Isuzu might put pressure on Far East sales.

Texaco tanker drivers expected to go back

BY OUR LABOUR STAFF

A STRIKE by tanker drivers and maintenance workers at Texaco's fuel oil and lubricant depot in Dagenham was expected to be called off last night after a meeting of the local branch of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

The stoppage, by 43 drivers and 14 depot men, began yesterday morning after the men had voted last week to take strike action in support of an 11 per cent pay claim.

The men are expected to suspend their action and return to normal working today to await the outcome of ballots at Shell and Esso.

Shop stewards from all three companies are to meet TGWU officials this week to discuss the

pay claim. A decision to defer strike action, originally planned to begin yesterday, was taken on Friday after BP drivers and depotmen voted to accept an 8.1 per cent offer.

However, the Texaco workers at Dagenham had already agreed to stop work and were unable to suspend the action until a second ballot could be held.

Drivers from Shell are to vote on the 8.1 per cent offer tomorrow and Esso drivers on Thursday.

Mr Jack Ashwell, TGWU road haulage group secretary, is seeking further talks with the oil companies in pursuit of an 11 per cent pay rise in line with Mobil tanker drivers who settled in May.

Print union protest at imports

BY OUR LABOUR CORRESPONDENT

THE THRUST of Government policy has severe damage to major sectors of industry, Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, said yesterday.

Mr Murray, who is convenor of the House of Commons Select Committee on the economy, said the policy was "a lobby of printers' union."

Mr Bill Keys, general secretary of the largest union, NGA, and chair of the TUC's printing industry committee, told a meeting of the union's executive committee, called to protest against the high level imports of printed matter into the UK—that industry provided jobs for some 340,000 workers

Supporters of Benn to carry on fight

By Elinor Goodman, Political Correspondent

SUPPORTERS of Mr Tony Benn made it clear yesterday that they regarded the stand by Mr Michael Foot, the Labour leader, on shadow Cabinet collective responsibility, as a justification for continuing the fighting within the Labour Party.

In a statement which deliberately omitted any reference to personalities, the Rank and File Mobilising Committee said that if shadow Cabinet collective responsibility was to mean that "20-odd MPs" were to determine the policy Labour advocated in parliament, "while preventing other MPs advocating the policies decided by conference," then it was a "recipe for perpetuating the divisions within the party."

That sort of "divisive doctrine," it claimed, could only prevent the unity behind conference policies which was needed to win the next election.

All the signs are that Mr Benn has become even more isolated from the majority of Tribune MPs as a result of his refusal last week to accept Mr Foot's conditions for shadow Cabinet membership.

There are differences within the RFMC as to what tactics to adopt now, but yesterday the committee agreed a statement implicitly rejecting Mr Foot's call for unity.

Mr Reg Race, chairman of the RFMC, said the committee believed in collective responsibility, but he made it clear that he interpreted the rule very differently from Mr Foot.

"All members of Labour's shadow Cabinet must be collectively responsible for advocating party policy," as decided by conference, but we do not accept that collective responsibility can ever legitimately be used to fudge or undermine party policy."

Another RFMC spokesman criticised the "inequitable manner" in which collective responsibility had been used to "silence" some members of the shadow Cabinet while enabling others to speak out against party policy from the front bench.

Labour moderates yesterday scored the first victory in their struggle to gain control of the Labour Party's sub-committees. Miss Joan Maynard, a hardline left winger, was defeated by Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody in the election for the chairmanship of the local government committee.

Grant leaves Labour for SDP

BY ELINOR GOODMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE SDP yesterday signed up its biggest catch from Labour since its party conference two months ago. Mr John Grant, the Labour MP for Islington Central, completed his two stage transition to become the party's twenty-third MP—but not before he had used his position as a Labour MP for one last time.

His last act on Friday as a member of the Parliamentary Labour Party was to vote for his old Labour Party friends in the shadow Cabinet elections. Yesterday, his first act as a SDP MP was to challenge Mr Tony Benn, his old Labour enemy, to resign and fight a by-election against him.

Mr Grant will begin talks shortly with the SDP in North London. He said yesterday that he hoped he would be able to stand as an SDP candidate in the area. He also predicted that at least two or three other Labour MPs would move over to the SDP within the next few weeks.

The SDP has done very well in North London. Of the three MPs elected for Labour in Islington in 1978, one, Mr Michael O'Halloran, has already come over, while the third, Mr George Cunningham, is also unhappy with the way Labour

is going, and may well make a move next week at his re-election conference.

Mr Grant told his local party three weeks ago that he did not want to stand again as a Labour candidate. The Labour leadership has tried hard to dissuade him, but yesterday Mr Grant said that in his view the prospects of "meaningfully reversing" the leftward trend in the party were "bleak."

He said he did not think the "belated" moves by Mr Michael Foot, the Labour leader, to block Mr Benn's progress would do any real good.

"It therefore seems to me that I must look elsewhere in order to try to secure the kind of aims and policies in which I believe."

Mr Grant is a former Employment Minister, and unlike some of the SDP's recent recruits from Labour, is a real loss to the party.

He has close links with the unions, and was a member of the steering committee of the Solidarity group set up by Labour moderates to counter the activities of the far left.

He tried yesterday to avoid making a direct attack on his old ally, Mr Benn, but he said there simply were not "enough fighters among the

moderates" to do the necessary job.

It was clear from Mr Grant's statement that he has not given up hope of working with Labour right wingers again in some form of alliance between the SDP and the Labour right after the next election.

He said it was far from certain that the present political realignment was the end of the story, and that in the longer term there could well be changes which would require "some of those who have moved apart to work together again."

Last week, in a speech in the Commons, Mr Grant appeared to criticise the SDP, and warn it against putting too much faith in the market economy. Nevertheless, he said yesterday that he agreed with the broad thrust of SDP policy.

Mr Grant's decision not to stand again for Labour became public on the eve of the poll for the Croydon by-election, in which Labour was beaten into third place.

His announcement yesterday that he is joining the SDP will provide another piece of ammunition for Mrs Shirley Williams in her campaign to win the next week's by-election in Crosby.

Tories call for denationalisation of airports body

By Ivor Owen

TORY BACKBENCHERS called on the Government in the Commons last night to denationalise the British Airports Authority.

Mr John Biffen, the Trade Secretary, acknowledged criticism directed at the BAA over the level of airport charges but pointed out that the provisions of the Civil Aviation (Amendment) Bill, which increases the BAA's statutory borrowing limit to £200m and authorises a further increase by Order to £300m, predicted its continuance as a public corporation.

Mr Biffen reminded Tory MPs that the 1979 Conservative election manifesto did not include any proposals to denationalise the BAA, but emphasised he was "very open-minded on these matters, and hinted of possible developments at a later stage."

He explained that the BAA's investment programme was currently expected to cost over £700m at out-turn prices over the next six to seven years. It would need to finance a proportion of this investment by new borrowings from the National Loans Fund.

Mr Biffen said the Government had no intention of achieving a credible negotiating position before tomorrow, when the Committee of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade meets in Geneva to begin the final phases of the renegotiation of the multi-fibre arrangement.

Mr Peter Rees, Trade Minister of State, who travels to Brussels today, for a meeting of the Council of Ministers, which will finalise the EEC's negotiating position, pointed out that there were differences of approach to the issue from within the Ten and outside.

"I hope we will reconcile the slightly divergent positions of the various members of the EEC," he said.

Mr John Smith, Labour's chief trade spokesman, underlined the importance of the British textile industry and urged the Government to spare no effort to prevent it being subjected to a further rundown "even to the extent of causing serious difficulty in the Community."

Mr Rees said there would be

Curbs on money supply 'to continue'

By Max Wilkinson, Economics Correspondent

SIR GEOFFREY HOWE, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, gave a clear indication yesterday about the Government's anxiety that its target for the growth of the money supply this year will be over-run.

But he told the Treasury and Civil Service Committee that the Government remained determined to apply a "steady but not excessive" downward pressure on monetary growth in its battle against inflation.

He gave a strong indication that the Government would continue with a firm interest rate policy in pursuit of its monetary targets.

He told the committee: "There have been signs, although difficult to determine, that the figure (for sterling M3 growth) has risen outside the target." But in answer to a question he said the Government's target of a 6 per cent to 10 per cent growth this year should still "be taken seriously."

He told the committee that the rise of 4 per cent centage points in interest rates this summer had been prompted partly by the excessive growth of the money supply as well as by a desire to prevent sterling from weakening further.

He admitted that the sterling M3 figure was "accident prone" because this year it had been distorted by the Civil Service dispute and last year it was inflated by the ending of the bank holiday, and he said that the Government would continue to look at a range of different monetary aggregates.

But there would be no question of abandoning sterling M3. Sir Geoffrey told the committee he was anxious about the effects of high interest rates on the economy.

Nevertheless there were some encouraging signs of recovery in the economy with better figures for industrial production, engineering construction and housing starts, a reduction in short-time working and a stabilisation of total hours worked.

On the subject of Britain's possible membership of the European monetary system Sir Geoffrey said there had been a "renewed interest in the search for a wider stability of exchange rates" and he said that the mechanism of the EMS was an important aspect of this.

However, he gave no indication that the Government has changed its cautious approach to this question.

Print union protest at imports

BY OUR LABOUR CORRESPONDENT

THE THRUST of Government policy has severe damage to major sectors of industry, Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, said yesterday.

Mr Murray, who is convenor of the House of Commons Select Committee on the economy, said the policy was "a lobby of printers' union."

Mr Bill Keys, general secretary of the largest union, NGA, and chair of the TUC's printing industry committee, told a meeting of the union's executive committee, called to protest against the high level imports of printed matter into the UK—that industry provided jobs for some 340,000 workers

Government to scrap 16 industrial training boards

THE GOVERNMENT is to scrap 16 industrial training boards, Mr Norman Tebbit, Employment Secretary, said in the Commons yesterday. Six to be retained are those for clothing, construction, engineering, hotels and catering, road transport, and rubber and plastics processing.

They will, however, be funded by the industries concerned. A seventh will be maintained for the oil industry's offshore sector only.

Mr Eric Varley, shadow Employment Secretary, condemned the plan as a "shabby little mean-minded public-expenditure cut" an act of "great folly."

Mr Tebbit told MPs the 16 boards to go would be wound down in 1982-83. The agricultural training board was excluded because it came under the Ministry of Agriculture.

He outlined changes which would be made to some of the boards to be retained—Rubber and plastics: the rubber industry would be taken out of its scope; Road transport: passenger transport, warehouses, agricultural machinery, driving schools and security transport would be taken away; Hotels and catering: no change proposed at present but Mr Tebbit will review the position in early 1983.

Where boards were to be abolished the industries concerned would bear the costs of alternative voluntary arrangements, he said. "The Government will continue to meet the operating costs of these boards as necessary until the end of financial year 1982-83." This would include any net winding-up costs.

"Where boards are retained, they too in future will be

funded by the industry concerned. Exchequer support for operating costs was planned to cease at the end of this year but I have decided that it would be right to extend this support until the end of March 1982."

Mr Varley said there was no shred of industrial or economic justification for destroying the majority of the boards at a time of unparalleled technological change. The announcement also came at a time of record unemployment and when output had been reduced.

At the end of every recession there had been a chronic shortage of skills. This one would be worse than any in the past 50 years.

"It is a shabby little mean-minded public-expenditure cut. A cut at the expense of Britain's jobs, a cut at the expense of school-leavers and

at the expense of Britain's industrial competitiveness," Mr Varley said.

Mr Ian Wigglesworth (SDP, Teesdale Throby) said: "It is a criminal act to remove any training facilities in this country without provision being made for the replacement and expansion of those facilities under the current circumstances."

Mr Tebbit said the number of apprentices supported by the Government was rising, from 21,000 in 1979-80 to 25,000 in 1980-81, to 35,000 in 1981-82.

Mr Jim Lester (Con, Beeston), welcoming retention of some boards, asked by what criteria Mr Tebbit would judge voluntary organisations replacing some of the boards to be effective.

Mr Tebbit said he would need to be convinced arrangements would ensure adequate supply of training personnel. "Train-

ing boards do not actually in general do very much training."

Mr Norman Atkinson (Lab, Tottenham) asked Mr Tebbit to name employers who supported scrapping the statutory system. Mr Tebbit said the glassware industry and others were in favour. "The statutory system is not being abolished—the Manpower Services Commission was asked to review the system and make recommendations, some of which have been accepted."

Mr Tebbit said later the MSC would continue to keep an eye on voluntary boards set up in future and report its findings to the Government.

Mr Bob Cryer (Lab, Keighley) attacked the move. "This will be regarded as an act of industrial vandalism," he said. With cuts in higher education the country needed more training.

Civil servants election cleared

BY PHILIP BASSETT, LABOUR STAFF

LITTLE evidence of alleged electoral irregularities has been found by leaders of Britain's largest civil service union, the Civil and Public Services Association.

Files were searched after reports from Mrs Kate Losinska, the union's president, that there had been complaints over the conduct of the ballot for two senior union posts.



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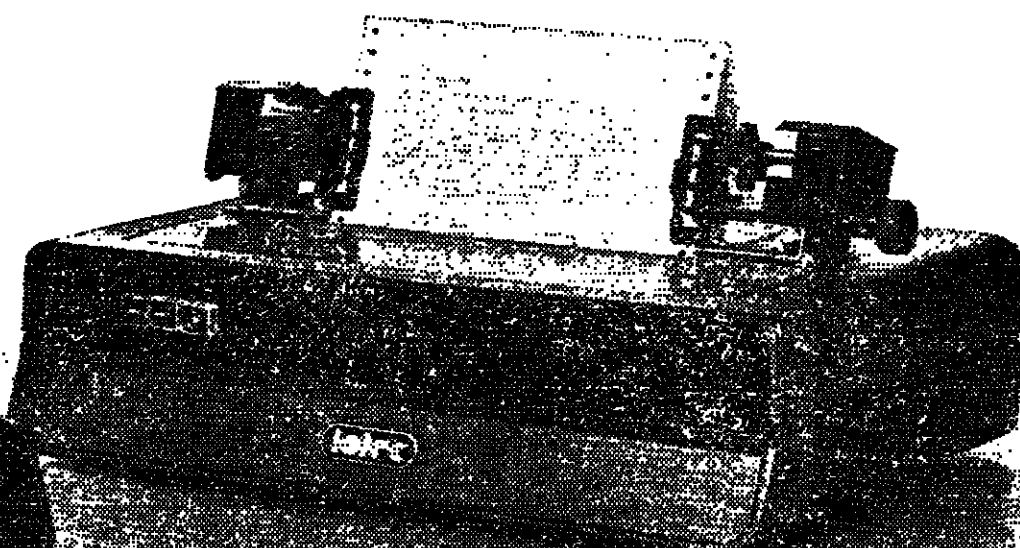
It's the only computer in its class housed in a metal case: something that may become a legal requirement.

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FT COMMERCIAL LAW REPORTS

Salvor's right to storage costs

CHINA PACIFIC SA v FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA

House of Lords (Lord Diplock, Lord Simon of Glaisdale, Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Roskill, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook): November 12, 1981

WHERE SALVORS off-load cargo from a stranded vessel for carriage to a place of safety, a relationship of bailor and bailee is thereby created between the cargo-owner and the salvors which gives rise to a duty of care on the salvors' part to preserve the cargo from deterioration, and which entitles them in the absence of instructions from the cargo-owner, to reimbursement for expenses incurred in so doing.

The House of Lords so held when allowing an appeal by China Pacific SA, salvors, from the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Megaw, Lord Justice Bridge and Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce). [1981] QB 403, and restoring a decision of Mr Justice Lloyd in the Commercial Court that the Food Corporation of India, owner of a cargo of wheat, was liable for the cost of its storage when salvaged.

LORD DIPLOCK said that the Winson was chartered by the cargo-owner to carry a cargo of wheat from the United States to India. In the course of the voyage the vessel stranded on a reef in the South China Sea. The following day the ship's master, on behalf of the shipowner and the cargo-owner, entered into a salvage agreement with the salvors in Lloyd's open form. By that agreement the salvors separately undertook to use their best endeavours to render salvage services both to the shipowner and to the cargo-owner. In carrying out those services they lightened the stranded vessel by off-loading part of the cargo into barges in six separate parcels, for carriage to Manila for safety.

Salvage operations were suspended by an outbreak of fighting in the vicinity and the shipowners, by a notice of abandonment, terminated the contract voyage. It never became practicable to resume the salvage operations thereafter, and the salvors gave formal notice of termination of their services. The Winson, with the remainder of the cargo of wheat still on board, became a total loss.

It was necessary for the wheat in Manila to be stored under cover if it were not to deteriorate from exposure to the elements. The salvors arranged for storage and, in so doing, they incurred expenses up until the time when the cargo-owner took possession of the wheat. The cargo-owner accepted liability for expenses incurred by the salvors for storage after the date on which the shipowner had abandoned the voyage, but dis-

claimed liability for expenses incurred for storage before that date.

The action was brought by the salvors against the cargo-owner to obtain reimbursement of the expenses incurred by them before the shipowner abandoned the voyage, and the amount at stake was agreed at \$110,982. The cargo-owner's main propositions were that as, for the duration of the contract of carriage, the immediate right to possession of the wheat was between the shipowner and the cargo-owner, the salvors were under a duty to deliver each parcel of wheat to the shipowner on its arrival in Manila, and not to the cargo-owner, and that accordingly it was the shipowner who was liable to reimburse the salvors up until the date of abandonment.

There was no direct authority on the question posed, and the House was to be guided by applying the basic principles of the common law of salvage, of bailment and of lien.

Nearly all salvage of merchant ships and their cargoes, nowadays, is undertaken under a salvage contract in Lloyd's open form. The contract imported into the contractual relationship between the parties, a number of mutual rights and obligations attaching to salvage of vessels and their cargo under common law, except in so far as they were inconsistent with the express terms of the contract. Lloyd's open form was expressed, by clause 18, to be signed by the master "as agent for the vessel her cargo and freight and the respective owners thereof".

When the form was signed in the present case, the circumstances which existed at that time were such as entitled the master to enter into the agreement on the cargo-owner's behalf, as its "agent of necessity". Where it was necessary to lighten a vessel, salvage services involved the transfer of possession from the shipowners to the salvors. The off-loading of the cargo and its separate conveyance by the salvors to a place of safety created the direct relationship of bailor and bailee as between the cargo-owner and the salvors, from the time the cargo was loaded on to the barges provided by the salvors. All the mutual rights and duties attaching to that relationship at common law applied, save in so far as any of them were inconsistent with the express terms of the Lloyd's open agreement. On parting with possession of the cargo to the salvors, the shipowners lost any possessory lien over it to which he might have been entitled for unpaid freight, demurrage or general average.

The legal relationship of bailor and bailee between the cargo-owner and the salvors continued until possession of the wheat was accepted by the cargo-owner. As long as that relationship continued, the salvors owed a duty of care to the cargo-owner to take such measures to preserve the salvaged wheat from deterioration as a man of ordinary prudence would take for the preservation of his own property.

The cargo-owner was kept informed of the salvors' intention to store the wheat in Manila, and made no alternative proposals. The failure of the cargo-owner, as bailor, to give any instructions to the salvors, was sufficient to entitle the salvors to recover their expenses incurred in taking measures necessary for the preservation of the wheat.

So, the cargo-owner failed on its main propositions of law. The appeal should be allowed.

LORD SIMON, agreeing with Lord Diplock's conclusion, said by way of comment, that there was no general right of a bailee to be reimbursed expenses

incurred in fulfilling his duty to safeguard goods. However, an emergency imposed obligations on a bailee beyond what would generally be contemplated in a bailment. Where there was an element of necessity, justice called for reimbursement.

The following circumstances in the present case imported a correlative obligation to reimburse expenses: (1) the contract of bailment was commercial; (2) it came to an end when the salvaged goods were brought to a place of safety; (3) the bailee then continued in possession as a gratuitous bailee; (4) he incurred reasonable expenses in preserving the goods; (5) the bailor stood by, knowing that the bailee was so acting to the bailor's benefit.

Lord Keith, Lord Roskill and Lord Brandon agreed with Lord Diplock.

For the salvors: Anthony Clarke QC and J Russell (Constant & Constant). For the cargo-owner: A. G. S. Pollock QC and Simon Crookenden (Stocken & Lambert).

By Rachel Davies Barrister

RACING

BY DOMINIC WIGAN

BOB DAVIES, poised to overtake the 908 career total of his brother-in-law, Terry Biddlecombe, should move a step nearer that target at Nottingham this afternoon.

There, Davies, who shared the 1968-69 championship with Biddlecombe after a remarkable tussle which saw them riding their 77th winner apiece on the final day of the campaign, has obvious prospects on the once-raced Morley novice, Dutch Challenger.

A bay son of that good miler, Saintly Song, who gets plenty of winners over hurdles, Dutch Challenger was the subject of interest on this course last season.

Backed down to second favourite for a two mile event in January, Dutch Challenger coped with all but Mr President Wear in a slowly run race.

Provided that he is ready to do himself full justice this afternoon, David Morley's Bury St Edmunds four-year-old ought to be good enough, in view of his modest opposition in the second division of the Tollerton Novices Hurdle.

The afternoon's principal event, the two mile Bingham

Handicap Chase, has cut up disappointingly with only three remaining from the 10 who came up for the final declaration stage.

At today's other meeting, Devon and Exeter, Laurence will be the outstanding bet for many. The Nick Gaselee mare beat all except My Bonny Prince in a 24-runner event at Cheltenham on her debut last month.

She needs only to have made normal improvement to set her right for victory over Bright Oasis in the closing division of the Scots Pine Novices Hurdle.

Another sound-looking bet at Devon is Klive, John Thorne's representative in the Haldon Forest Novices Chase, in preference to Father Glib.

DEVON AND EXETER
1.15—Klive***
1.45—General Election
2.45—Road To Mandalay
3.15—Laurence**

NOTTINGHAM
1.30—Perialis
1.30—Orange Tag
2.00—Flash
2.30—Bannow Breeze
3.00—Coxmore Knitwear
3.30—Dutch Challenger*

BBC 1

9.05 am For Schools. Colleges.
12.30 pm News After Noon. 12.57 Regional News for England (except London) London and SE only. Financial Report. News Headlines with subtitles. 1.00 Pebble Mill at One. 1.45 Over the Moon. 2.00 You and Me. 2.14-3.00 For Schools. Colleges. 3.25 O dro 1 dro. 3.33 Regional News for England (except London). 3.55 Play School. 4.20 Undercover Elephant. 4.25 Jackanory. 4.40 The Drak Pack. 5.00 John Craven's Newsround. 5.05 Screen Test. 5.35 The Amazing Adventures of Morph.

5.40 News.
6.00 Nationwide (London and South East only).

6.25 Nationwide.

6.50 Barbara's World of Horses and Ponies.

7.15 Angels.

7.40 The Rockford Files Starring James Garner.

8.30 Yes Minister starring Paul Eddington and Nigel Hawthorne.

9.00 News.

9.25 Play for Today: "No Visible Scar" by Rosemary Davies.

10.25 Norman St John-Stevens in conversation with Elisabeth Frink, one of Britain's outstanding sculptors.

10.55 Kojak starring Telly Savalas.

11.45-11.50 News Headlines.

TELEVISION

Chris Dunkley: Tonight's Choice

The second part of the study of gypsies in BBC-2's The World About Us concentrates on Europe. The continent's largest community lives in Skopje, Yugoslavia, where the tinkers, bear trainers and travellers have been forced to settle down and integrate, yet the gypsies have fought to preserve their Indian lifestyle, costumes and music. Radio 4's In On The Edge is one of those far too rare programmes which endeavour to illustrate our own constitutional processes in a comprehensible way. Here it is the passage of the Education Act 1981.

During Episode 6 of Brideshead Revisited on ITV, Diana Quick comes to the fore playing Julia Flyte who is being pursued determinedly by Rex Mottram. Of course he doesn't really love her, but several million male viewers will probably make up for that. The quality of this serial never falters.

BBC-1's "Play For Today" is No Visible Scar by Rosemary Davies: a British nurse in a foreign country is imprisoned and interrogated about nursing a wounded rebel. She deals political involvement. Back in England she finds she has become a celebrity.

Arena on BBC-2 tells the story of British film writers/producers/directors Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, who together were responsible for Tales of Hoffman, The Red Shoes, Ill Met By Moonlight and so on. About time someone paid attention.

BBC 2

11.00 am Play School.

3.55 pm Antiques Roadshow.

4.35 Everybody's Doin' It.

4.55 In Search of... Offa.

5.35 The Five Faces of Doctor Who.

6.00 Grange Hill.

6.30 The Waltons.

7.05 News Summary.

7.10 The World About Us.

8.00 Top Gear.

8.30 Russell Harty.

9.00 The Last Song.

9.30 Your Life in Their Hands.

10.00 Arena.

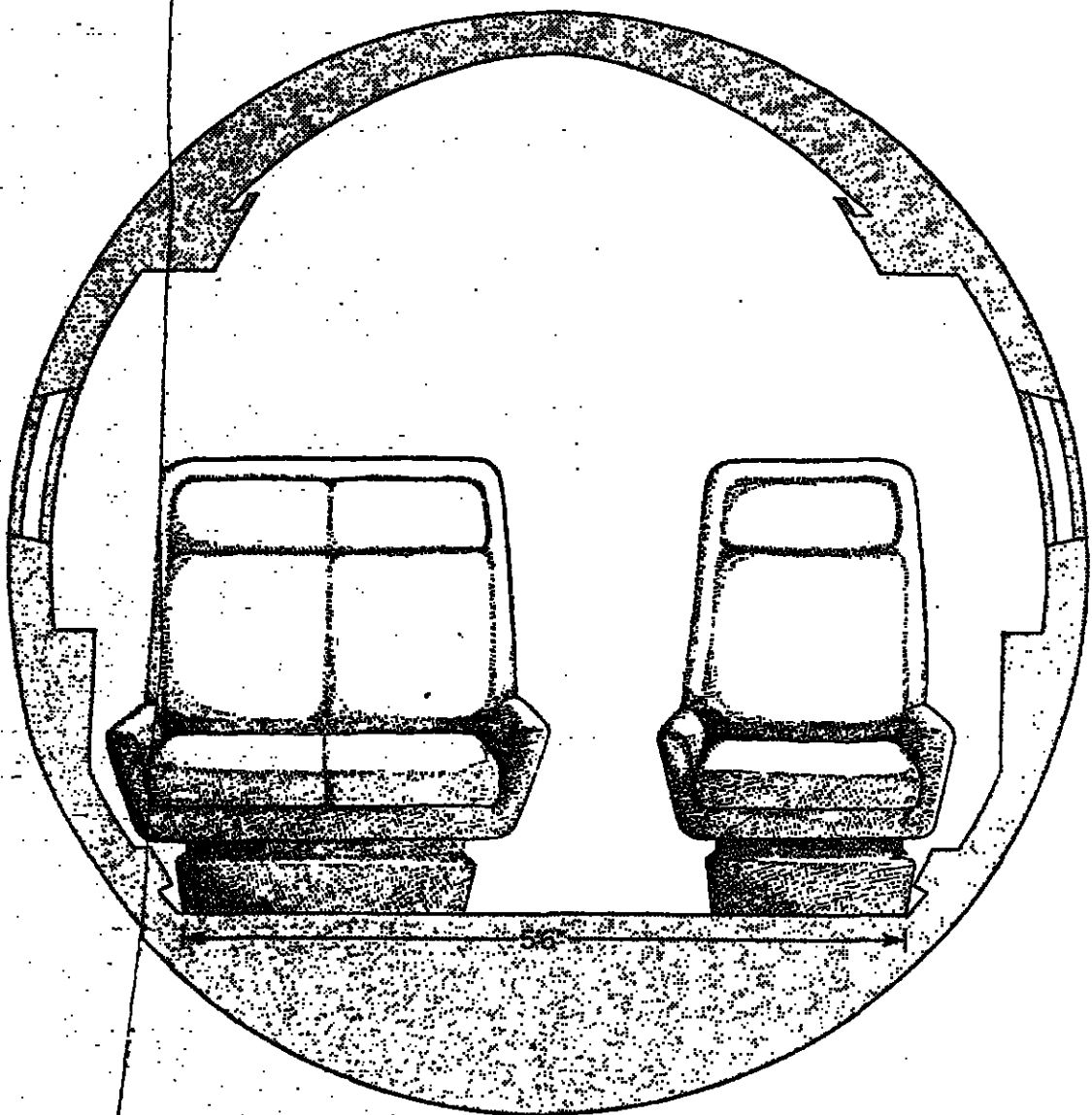
10.50-11.40 Newsnight.

LONDON

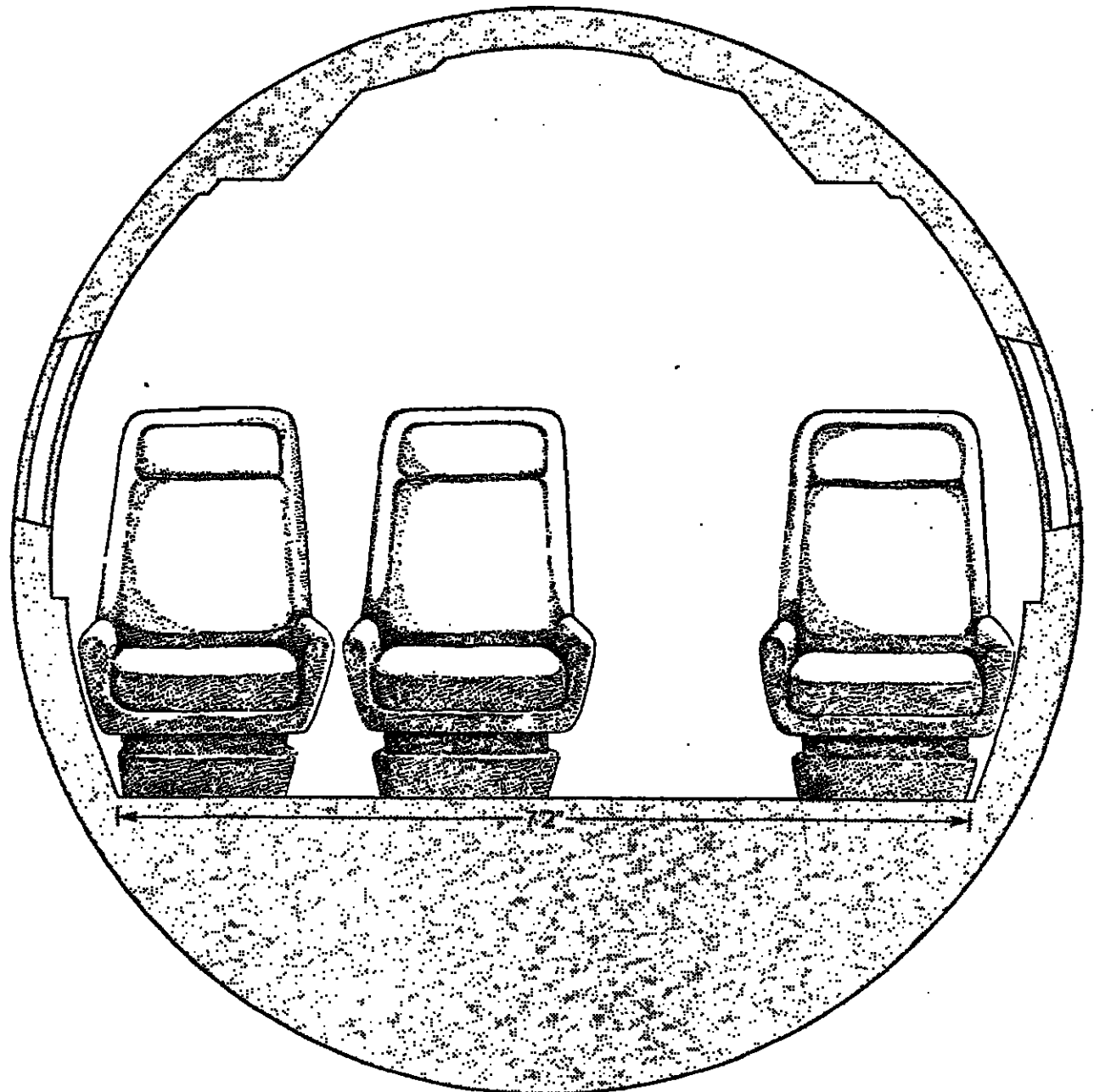
9.55 am School Program.
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With the amount of fuel it takes to fly the aircraft on the left New York to London, you can fly the aircraft on the right New York to London.

Then Amsterdam, Brussels, Frankfurt and Munich.



Gulfstream III



Canadair Challenger

With the fuel required to fly the aircraft on the left Los Angeles to New York, you can fly the aircraft on the right Los Angeles to New York. Then Boston, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C.

The aircraft on the left is a direct descendant of a corporate jet designed and built in the early sixties, when the average cost of a gallon of jet fuel was 9¢.

The aircraft on the right is a direct descendant of the gas lines, the fuel shortages, the price hikes, the increased federal regulation—and, paradoxically, the demand for greater comfort—that came twenty years later. By which time the cost of jet fuel had risen tenfold.

Thus the aircraft on the left

will fly three thousand nautical miles burning 383 gallons of fuel per hour. While the aircraft on the right will fly three thousand nautical miles burning 278 gallons per hour.

Thus the aircraft on the left, as a modified version of a business jet designed and built in the early sixties, complies with Federal Air Regulations Part 25 as defined in 1965.

While the aircraft on the right, as a new business jet designed and built from scratch in the seventies, complies with Federal Air Regulations Part 25 as redefined in 1976, comprising the strictest design and operational requirements in aviation history.

Thus the aircraft on the left is noisier than the aircraft on the right.

Because the aircraft on the right remains the only large-cabin intercontinental corporate jet quiet enough to be well below Federal Air Regulations Part 36 noise limits for 1985.

Thus the aircraft on the left is long, yet offers a passenger cabin only five feet, six inches wide at the floor line.

While the aircraft on the right is shorter, yet offers the single most crucial advantage to executives seeking maximum comfort and the least confining work environment during transcontinental and intercontinental flights: a seven-foot, two-inch wide passenger cabin, measured at the floor line.

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Fuel burn in gallons per hour at long range cruise with NBAA IFR reserves.

STAGE LENGTH	CHALLENGER	GULFSTREAM III	GULFSTREAM II
500 nautical miles	266	408	450
1,000 nautical miles	262	388	409
2,000 nautical miles	264	391	411
3,000 nautical miles	278	383	420

THE MANAGEMENT PAGE

EDITED BY CHRISTOPHER LORENZ



KEN HOLLOWAY was recently forced to let a small Midlands company go to the wall. As manager of Midland Bank's Leicester North Area Office it was obviously a distasteful task, but one he nevertheless considered inevitable.

"We had noticed that the overdraft of this business had developed a significant 'hard-core' element so I decided to go to the accountant and find out why."

"He turned out to be sitting on the information as he had not been paid, and on further investigation we discovered that something like three quarters of shareholders' funds had disappeared over the last two years."

"The managers had clearly been buying turnover at any price, and their production and financial controls proved to be virtually non-existent."

"They had little idea what was going on but they had their own assets on the line. It was thus as much in their interests as it was in ours to call it a day."

Quite apart from providing a rare insight into a bank's relations with a client, the case illustrates Holloway's firm conviction that poor management, not the banks' alleged reluctance to provide support, lies at the heart of most small business failures.

Holloway speaks as a manager with considerable experience and as one of a new specialist breed which is emerging to strengthen Midland's corporate lending expertise.

Since 1973 Midland has gradually developed a radical new style of handling business customers. This has involved the establishment of new area offices, staffed by managers whose sole responsibility is to lend money to and advise local companies.

Such area offices typically cover about eight branches, the managers of which are now left to get on with supervising the bank's cash transmission services and to deal with the varying and often time consuming requirements of personal customers.

"Area offices are not just another management tier," Holloway points out, "but a conscious attempt to concen-

Why Midland launched corporate satellites

UK banks are often accused of failing to meet the needs of small firms. Senior managers invariably deny the allegation and the Wilson Committee found precious little evidence to support it, but the critics nevertheless refuse to lie down. In the first of an occasional series on the major banks we look at the Midland's initiatives to help the smaller businessman. A later article will make a comparative assessment of the banks' contrasting approaches.

trate management expertise closer to the customer."

His five man team at Leicester North, for example, covers nine branches. "Previously," he says, "the branch manager had to go to our regional office for approval if a loan application exceeded his individual limit."

Today, says Holloway, about 90 per cent of business customers' requirements can be handled under his roof—compared with between 30 and 40 per cent in a branch under the old system.

"The managers in my office all have different levels of experience and different discretionary lending limits. If a customer suddenly wants a larger than usual advance he can quickly consult a more senior colleague and if necessary me. The customer himself also has immediate access to more senior people and those who actually make the decisions."

According to Holloway "one of the most pleasing developments has been the enthusiasm of managers who go out and see customers on their premises."

A bank's role, argues Holloway, is to provide finance for a company on terms best suited to a particular need. Although the bank can certainly offer advice it is not its job to draw up a business plan or to do the company's market research.

Holloway also rejects the suggestion that banks should somehow take more risks. "We have our venture capital arm but an unsecured loan, as I see it, is no more than equity without any access to equity returns."

"The Government's Loan Guarantee Scheme has certainly helped by providing the security which some people with a sound business plan are not able to provide. But let's not forget that security apart, the application must satisfy our normal criteria."

ALTHOUGH some of Midland's High Street rivals question the philosophy of breaking the traditional link between customers and their local branch, they admit that Midland's "satellite" structure represents a radical approach to the needs of business customers generally and small businesses in particular.

National Westminster has a couple of experimental "areas," for example, and is actively considering following suit.

Midland's experiment began when it opened its first area offices in Newcastle and Southampton.

"We increasingly felt," says John Burton, an assistant general manager, "that individual specialist managers were needed to do specialist jobs."

The plan also had economic attractions for Midland's own accountants. With some branches bursting at the seams as more and more people caught the banking habit in the mid-to-late-1970s, it made sense to group one activity under one new roof rather than add extra staff and more floor space to a whole series of branches.

Midland area offices up and

down the country today number 32 (covering 210 branches or roughly 10 per cent of the UK network). Another two are planned to open by the end of this year.

This begs the question of what sort of service Midland customers receive in the 90 per cent of branches not covered by areas. Burton points out that a large number of them are already served by large branches (e.g. in the City of London) where the right sort of expertise is on hand. He reckons that Midland only needs to double the present number of area offices.

Midland sees the structural reorganisation as its most significant response to the special requirements of the smaller firm. But it has reacted in other ways.

Three years ago, for instance, it set up an internal Independent Business Banking Unit to provide a focus for small company matters. One of the main initiatives here has been to invest £5m in a small factory building programme jointly run with English Industrial Estates in Barnsley.

The Independent Business



John Burton

Banking Unit is also responsible for administering the Government's Loan Guarantee Scheme (the Government guarantees up to 30 per cent of a loan in return for a "premium" equivalent to 2.4 per cent of the interest).

Midland is slightly embarrassed that the bank got off to a slow start with the scheme but it now seems to be joining in more enthusiastically. At the last count £6.4m of the bank's money had been committed to it.

Like other banks, Midland has introduced a bewildering array of services specially tailored for the smaller business. It was the first clearer to have introduced 20-year term loans at fixed and floating rates. However, a number of other schemes (in common with its rivals) clearly consist of new wrappings for well worn ideas—witness some of its medium-term loan packages.

Banks argue with some justification that they are not in the risk business but all have responded to the market place (and perhaps political fashion) by setting up some sort of equity capital subsidiary. Midland is involved with no less than six—Moracrest (where its partners are Prudential Assurance and British Gas Central Pension Fund), Meritor Investments (a joint venture with Rolls-Royce), and the four subsidiaries of Midland Bank Group (Industrial Finance, Investment, Equity and Venture Capital).

Midland obviously hopes that longer term businesses which it backs with equity capital will in time become companies to which it can profitably lend, but Burton maintains that this is not the sole motive.

Guaranteed lending

BANKERS CAN be forgiven for raising their eyebrows at the latest collection of banks which have been invited to join the Government's loan guarantee scheme for small firms. At first sight they look a motley bunch.

Only one more member—Brown Shipley—of the Accepting Houses Committee, the elite club of City merchant banks, has seen fit to join (Hill Samuel is already a member), and the list includes a Swiss Bank, the largest bank in Israel and the merchant banking arm of P & O, the shipping company.

Four out of the 10 new entrants to the scheme are not fully fledged banks in terms of having recognition under the 1979 Banking Act.

Until now all those involved in the scheme, particularly the English and Scottish clearing banks plus the Irish banks, have seemed obvious candidates. But the latest group includes for the first time, banks that can demonstrate, unreservedly, that they want to be in the scheme because they want to help the smaller firm.

The Swiss Bank Corporation has been a London operation since 1895 and is the biggest Swiss bank in the City by far. It does not boast a large network of UK branches but it is anxious to get more involved in the small business sector.

Bank Leumi UK is another bank that has been in Britain for over 80 years. It is the largest and oldest commercial bank in Israel. Joseph Wegrzyn, the general manager, says: "Not only will we be in a better position to help small businesses, but because of our strong international links we can help firms to increase their exports."

His bank appears to have been particularly aggressive in its pricing of loans for small firms under the Government's scheme. It will charge between 2.5 per cent and 2.75 per cent over base rates on the loans plus a handling charge of £100.

Among the other new entrants are the banking arm of Norwich Union Insurance Company, the UK finance house subsidiary of Commercial Credit, an American company, UDT, County Bank, Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank and the British Linen Bank.

William Hall

PRODUCT DESIGN

Consultants query clients' brief

FOR THE second time in as many months, the British design establishment has delivered a blistering attack on UK industry for failing behind Japanese, American and continental European companies in the use of design as a competitive weapon.

Rather than a self-interested cry for help from a special-interest lobby group, this fast-developing campaign reflects the concern of a broad cross-section of designers, many of whom boast fat and thoroughly healthy order books. They complain that British industry's lack of interest means that they are having to do too much work for foreign clients, so that they are effectively helping boost imports into the UK.

The first broadside was fired in September by the Government-backed Design Council, when it opened a month-long exhibition of products which had been designed in Britain but made by foreign manufacturers. The initiative raised the eyebrows of those who see the council purely as a publicity organ for design in British industry.

Feeling

Now the magazine published by the designers' professional association, the Society of Industrial Artists and Designers, has produced what it calls "a depressing catalogue of missed opportunities and mismanaged possibilities." Such is the strength of feeling among designers that one of them has gone to the extraordinary length of attacking a current client for mismanaging their joint project.

The way the (unnamed) company has used his services, says Nick Butler, of BIB Design Consultants, in the November issue of "Designer," shows that its understanding of the role of design is "paper thin," as it is in so many other UK companies.

One of the problems is that the commission originated from the marketing side of the company, rather than from engineering, says Butler. As a result, the company underestimated how long the development work would take. An

"arbitrary" date in December was set for test marketing, that short cuts had to be taken.

For example, complaints Butler, the company decided to finalise the design for production tooling too early, so that modifications were not possible. "We know from experience that you always have to modify the tools. So either they will have to ditch the original tool (costing £120,000) or they will have to forego improvements and end up with an inferior product."

By contrast, Butler says, Japanese, U.S. and German clients bring in a designer at a very early stage, their thinking. "You are involved from the moment they identify a potential point in the market."

Many designers consider the limited and last-minute work in which much of the industry is involved as a sign of the narrow view which British society as a whole takes of design. It is little more than a styling to be added almost as an afterthought. Instead, argue, it should be part of the whole product concept, affecting its inside as well as its external shape and appearance.

This narrowness of approach is partly the fault of designers themselves, according to chairman of Britain's only policy-quoted design consultants AD. Speaking at a conference at London's Imperial College earlier this month, Joe Pickitch warned of the danger of linking design and engineering as one.

"There are people... who ought to know better, who in for beauty in design as an end in itself," he said. But a designer's real task was to create goods that masters people want. "And that means coming to terms with his speed production, labelling, law, polycarbonate and something else and a whole of other complexities."

Published monthly, price: Annual UK subscription £12. Designer, 10, Charles Street, London SW1Y 4TY 01-830 2687.

Christopher Lor

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APPOINTMENTS

Senior posts at Mallinson-Denny

Following the acquisition of Mainhead and Sons, Mr John F. C. Armstrong has been appointed managing director of MALLINSON-DENNY (SCOTLAND). Mr Matthew Clark has become financial director and other board members include Mr Jack M. Lindsay, Mr R. Lawson McKIL, Mr David W. Mitchell, Mr R. T. S. Macpherson and Mr Frank F. Andrews. Mr Macpherson, chairman and managing director of Mallinson-Denny Limited and a director of Brooke Bond Liebig, and Mr Andrew, managing director of Mallinson-Denny (UK), are the board representatives from the parent Mallinson-Denny Limited, part of the Brooke Bond Liebig Group.

The Mainhead name will be continued by the subsidiary company Mainhead Timber Engineers (MTE). MTE's board consists of Mr Armstrong, managing director, Mr Andrew, Mr William M. Baxter, Mr Fringle, Mr Clark and Mr David H. Allen. Mr Clark is also company secretary for both companies.

More senior appointments have been made at KARRIER MOTORS. Dunstable-based builder of Dodge commercial vehicles now half-owned by Renault Vehicules Industriels, finance director is Mr Leslie Ayles, who has joined from a similar position within the TI group. Mr Roy Arderton has been appointed personnel director, from personnel relations at Talbot. Mr Claude Lancher moves to director of engineering from director of truck engineering at Talbot, who previously controlled the Dodge operation. Mr John Lee joins as parts director from the Paris-based Jole assistant to the parts director of the new Peugeot-Talbot group. Mr John Webber has been appointed service director after 10 years as chief engineer of the heavy haulage division of Pickfords.

Mr Alan McGowan-Jackson has been named director, programming and distribution for UK and export markets. He comes from Talbot.

Mr David J. Archer has been appointed director and general manager of STANDARD A POCHEM, Leicester. Former production director, he has joined the company five years ago from Brown Brothers Engineering.

Mr C. Stuart Page has been elected president of the RAY AND VALUATION ASSOCIATION for 1981-82.

Mr Jack Emmes, a chairman and chief general manager of the Combined Union Assurance Company, has been appointed a director of BARCLAYS BANK since December 1.

Mr Anthony Salt has been appointed director of GTU MANAGERS.

Mr Jerry Planchet has been appointed managing director of JAMES MCNOMONY and member of the main of COMET RADIO SERVICES. He joins from the Pentes Group where he was managing director of subsidiary Casey's Camping.

Mr Richard Sermon has been appointed executive deputy manager of SHANDWICK (SUITANTS) and is succeeded by Mr. Mole, formerly managing director of Shandwick PR. Mr Mole becomes deputy chairman Shandwick. Mr Mole, a theologian has been appointed managing director of Shand PR, where she was previous deputy managing director.

Mr Stuart T. Graham, a director and group chief executive of the Midland Bank, has joined the

APPOINTMENTS OVERSEAS

Mr Alec Flamm has been elected a director of UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION, New York. He is a senior vice-president of the corporation, and has been elected president and chief operating officer from January 1.

Mr W. J. W. (Will) Forgham, London director of Cruden Developments, has been unanimously elected president of EUROPREFAB at its annual assembly in Bologna. He succeeds Professor Doctor Architect Fernando Aguirre of the Madrid Institute of Concrete Construction. Europrefab is a multinational organisation within the international building and construction industry, whose aims include the promotion of prefabricated and other industrialised building methods, and the exchange of technical and commercial information between the 14 member nations.

Mr Martin van Meudag, partner of HALLIDAY ASSOCIATES, has been elected vice-president of the EUROPEAN MARKETING COUNCIL. He has been representative since 1979.

Mr John S. Rohan has been appointed a director of YOUGHAL CARPETS (HOLDINGS). He is chairman of the Rohan group.

Mr Matthys C. Pretorius, has been elected a director of HUNT CHEMICAL, New Jersey. He succeeds Mr C. Wilfrid Newton, group managing director of Turner & Newall, Manchester, who stepped down as a Hunt director to have more time available for group operations. Turner & Newall is a majority stockholder of Hunt Chemical.

Mr Pretorius is currently chief executive and director of Turner & Newall Holdings (Pty) and chairman of its operating companies. Turner & Newall Holdings (Pty) is an investment holding company and a subsidiary of Turner & Newall.

BANK OF NEW SOUTH WALES has appointed Mr James D. Wolfensohn as its American adviser. An expatriate Australian, he was until recently an executive partner of investment bankers, Salomon Brothers of New York and head of that firm's corporate finance operations. Mr Wolfensohn has established his own private New York City, and will provide evidence on the bank's business objectives and assist in planning and implementing the expansion of its North American business.

Mr G. E. London, general manager of the AMSTERDAM ROTTERDAM BANK and since 1978 in charge of new issue,

Dr Karl Pale, chairman of board of Ginzentrale View has been elected president of VIENNA STOCK EXCHANGE

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ketus is a Dutch ensemble of dozen performers formed a student class of Louis Iessen at the Hague Conservatory in 1976-77. They play unusual variety of instruments: a pair each of pan-pipes, flutes, guitars, percussion, and electric pianos. They play the name and founding location of the ensemble's native place called Hoketus, and for precisely that noble. And they came to the House on Sunday night, the first leg of an Arts Council Contemporary Music tour, to give Hoketus her with two other "small" works.

the term is a convenient but blurring the tempi contrasts and dragging the momentum. After nine performances their grip might improve; the audience at the Royal Northern College of Music on November 29 should get a better and clearer impression.

For their finale, Hocketts gave *Hocketts*. The recipe is exceptionally simple: two equal groups of instruments play melodic and rhythmic permutations of single chords, successively, in interlocking, reversible "stair halves." It is a pleasant and stimulating idea, worked doggedly to the bone. The effect is that of a very primitive Steve Reich, sort of like the textural interest, and thereby any rhythmic complexity generated by shifting phases or "ghost" harmonic tones. Fun to prepare

• Hektoz ensemble opened programme with Rzewski's mal-political 'melodrama.' Composer reveals the 'alien' written by the name of the Afrika peniten- before the famous (and 'ally') justified, 'terribly' prisoners' revolt of 'It is a story of his'—'tossing some clar-.' 'several' many la-

by RICHARD JOSEPH

Philharmonia's Brahms for Brahms's strenuous efforts in these passages, as did Sawadish's decision to end the penultimate movement much louder than the composer had intended. This decision emerged as an anti-climax, and the architectural unity of the work as a whole was sacrificed.

The soloists were both in good form. Dietrich Böhmer, Dieckau is an old hand at this baritone part, having recorded

the modest work sounded like in the hall—one would be able to appreciate of its subtleties on a delayed train. But the music seems perfectly fit to the cavernous acoustic Victorian ambience of the Hall, and Sawalschik raged his forces to fill it with waves of impressive sound, again on the fast though sensibly chosen, changed during each silent, pausing to listen to certain moments, then on. Though the spontaneity and assurance with this was done was commendable, it inevitably brought co-ordination problems came greater, and more during the course of work.

Free-for-all approach to the busy fugues in certain lack of respect

it three times, but he brought something fresh and incisive to his varied delivery. Julia Varady never allowed her full, rich voice to sail through the solo lines. Instead, she refined almost pinched, her large soprano into a thread of sound, resulting in some rather sharp intonation and a general impression of unease.

Housing the Arts grants

The Arts Council has agreed to make Housing the Arts Grants of £10,000 to the Jazz Centre Society in Manchester, Stoke-on-Trent Museum and Art Gallery, and the National Book League, as well as a grant of £5,000 for the Theatre Royal, Dumfries and £4,000 for Theatre Cwmd in Mold.

The Arts Council has agreed to make Housing the Arts grant of £10,000 to the Jazz Centre Society in Manchester, Stoke-on-Trent City Museum and Art Gallery, and the National Book League, as well as a grant of £5,000 for the Theatre Royal Dumfries and £4,000 for Theatre Clwyd in Mold.

[illegible][illegible]

Agnew/Hazlitt, Gooden, Fox

by DAVID PIPER

At Agnew's (until December 11) the formidable collection of Victorian collectors by Thomas Holloway has come to town from the Royal Holloway College at Egham, in aid of the Victorian Society. This offers what may well be a unique opportunity to see clearly those once celebrated, then despised, and now once more celebrated paintings. The glass which normally creates such a barrier between viewer and picture has been removed for the occasion, revealing paint in almost mint condition (and preserved thus no doubt thanks to the tiresome glass).

Holloway was a magnificent Victorian tycoon, impresario of pills and ointment proclaimed as "the only cure for all diseases." Like so many of the most fruitful benefactors though he had a wife they had no children. The idea from which Royal Holloway College sprang, as the "University for Ladies," was his wife's but carried out with huge bravura, it is that extraordinary Architectural concoction in the French renaissance style, that is guaranteed to stop any innocent passer-by on its once rural Surrey hill speechless in its tracks.

It was Holloway who as an afterthought, decided the institution should be equipped with pictures for the entertainment of the students as well as of the public in general." This seems to have occurred to him in 1881, and he acted forthwith. By late 1883, he was dead but nevertheless in those two years had brought the pictures to the attention of the public. It is to be seen at Agnew's. The emphasis of selection is on the High Victorian. Thus, though the well-known Gainsborough and the Constable had not come to town, Frith's *The Railway Station* and *Fildes's Applicants to a Casual Ward* are both very much in evidence. The latter is the cul-de-sac of the superb index of High Victorian taste.

Sentiment is rich and uninhibited, and the paint on the whole likewise. You may not be able to go along with Ruskin, unexpectedly enraptured by Briten Riviere's *Sympathy*, and quoted by the catalogue. "The dog is uncarcatured dogginess, divine as Anubis, or

the Dog-Star, the child entirely childish and lovely, the carpet may have been laid down by Veronese. This is that picture (a smaller version is in the Tate), still selling well in coloured reproductions: the small girl sitting pensive at the top of the stairs with a dog leaning its head on her shoulder. Yet not, I think, necessarily sentimental, in the pejorative sense so often applied to expressions of sentiment. Maybe Veronese would not have claimed responsibility for the carpet, but technically the hand is his. I am happy to say that he was not a dog. Though, as Mr. Woodhouse

Fildes's *Casual Ward* proves a considerable tour-de-force and yet, in this case, justifiably accusable of sentimentality, overstated, and with a most peculiar texture, the paint as if glazed by sleet. This was a huge hit at the 1874 academy, awarded a railing and a policeman for protection from its admirers, but one wonders what Van Gogh would have said if he had seen it in the flesh. There might have been the first idea for it, one of those wooden cuts, with a strong social-realist message, produced in the *Graphic*, which so

impressed him.

Another Graphic contributor, that fine painter Frank Hall, is very well represented here by his *Neugate: Committed for Trial*, which seems a much more restrained yet also more powerful dramatic expression, yet which in contrast, was found wanting by the critics. A difficulty with this sort of painting is its wariness of anecdotal content may cloud appreciation of its other qualities.

But it is perhaps to two paintings in an earlier tradition that the visitor will return. One is the Turner—perhaps his last essay in the Dutch maritime genre (1844), *Van Tromp*, going about in a huge sea, an exhilarating surge of water, sail and sky, all anchored, as Turner was wont to do, in one minute accent in the foreground, in the trough of the spilling wave, a bird silhouetted in flight. The other though is more startling, perhaps in part because so unexpected from its

author, generally known as a watercolourist. Copley Fielding The Organists have perhaps the most interesting history, being going right back to 1829, but justifiably. *Travellers in the Storm: Approach to Winchester* is a majestic painting, the white canvas of a covered way gone indomitable against a huge storm cloud, the towers of the Cathedral enduring in the distance.

At Hazlitt Gooden and Fox in Bury Street (likewise till December 11), quite simply the most charming exhibition of the year: *Interiors*. Little pictures

not making awkward demands on the emotions. The action—very unlike that in so many of the minor movements—is often about to happen, has happened; even, blessedly, may not happen. More often than not, no one is there.

These are pictures of rooms shown in two parts, English and Continental, predominantly 19th century. The English—almost all watercolours—may rely unabashed on the offerings of the ladies of the house, who have had their watercolour lessons and are well versed in women's art. In case that should be patronising, let me add wifely that the results can say, more simply and satisfactorily than many a professional artist could—("I know this room, and I was happy here").

Objectively viewed, the differences in quality, in professional efficiency, are great, but the preparations are not worrying. There are no partitions, there are times, when both for the artist and for the viewer, there is delight in being a true amateur.

The Continental ones tend to be grander, and more often with a professional dexterity and finish, if more often too with pretensions ('This is my house, match it if you can'). The English seem correspondingly less used areas, for passing through, or setting for display of well-upholstered persons, or simply of status.

The most affecting are artists' account of their hotel rooms—von Reutern's very cool and clear transcription of his room at Bad Ems in 1827, so tidy. The shoes parked patiently along the

skirting board. Upstairs, there are a few oils, including a couple of surprises. An extraordinary, delicately decorated, rough cottage staircase, all beams and planks, the rough finished wood in a crude but compelling geometry. It is by B. W. Leader, R.A. author of the famous *February Fillydike*, but it could almost be by Wyeth with overtones of Edward Hopper.

Then, at the other extreme of grandeur, by A. Legrand, painting of the Salle des Carytides, in the Louvre, the monumental caryatids haunted by

two bourgeois presences, marked in black, tubular woman in red in the dark doorway, extruded, painted apparently from vision by Seurat.

At Agnew's, besides the resonances from Holloway, there is a small but enticing exhibition of sculpture, mostly small, mostly by women, including Gilbert, Delou, Drury; a brilliant little terracotta bust, of Dumas Filis, by Carpeaux. A pleasant signal that Agnew's is diversifying, reflecting the renewed attractions of a kind of sculpture that for long has lacked serious consideration. One of the leaders in this field is the surprising Briton Galleries. In some of its annouces, with an enormously handsome and colorful catalogue, *French Sculpture 1780-1940*, from November 14, in tandem with another part in New York.

Seven Arts Council films have been bought by Channel 4 for a total of over £40,000 for transmission after the new channel comes on the air next year. Included in the deal are all the recently-produced Arts Council films, with the exception of *Mark Gertler* which has already been shown by the BBC Omnibus programme.

The most recent films are *Kiss Over Here*, *Beaubourg*, *Edward Hopper*, and *Great Music*. In addition, Channel 4 has bought *Tom Phillips* and *Europe After the Rain*. Negotiations are in progress for further films.

ACROSS

- 1 Short poem to cover a rod we hear (8)
- 2 Fastener left in military station (5)
- 3 Practice that makes us get colder (5)
- 4 Cartwheel going sideways in season to plant (9)
- 5 Boiler with cylindrical container for a large tea-party (10)
- 6 Hide from shower (4)
- 7 One who plays in diamonds is not working (7)
- 8 Wild flower in gold-coloured vessel (7)
- 9 Turkish coin and note—enough cas (7)

DOWN

- 1 Exhibit gift now (7)
- 2 Be pleased with the same thing (4)
- 3 The lowest possible action of a belly-dancer (4-6)
- 4 Constable required to apprehend parrot (9)
- 5 Schubert's quintet of interest to Isaac Walton (5)
- 6 Agree to meet in a cattle fair (5)
- 7 Rank action needed for proof of possession (5-4)

DOWN

- 1 Under the influence of inebriol as Spooner would have put it (5)
- 2 Magpie caught Alice's maid associate with Her Majesty (8)
- 3 Pinch a drop of sealing-wax as an amorous gesture (5, 1-4)
- 4 Person within an organisation imprisoned ringleader (7)
- 5 Grape used to make German port? (7)
- 6 Tom Bowling was their darling (4)
- 7 Is in drink in part of church (5)
- 8 Store of crisp producers destroyed in 6 A.C. (5-3)

[illegible]

by: ANDREW CLEMENTS

The first performances of Michael Tippett's Triple Concerto at the 1980 Proms was unusual in that the mastery of the score was evident on first hearing. Much recent Tippett has taken longer to mature; and this Concerto, though it required to balance content and form, to extract the kernels of logic. The Triple Concerto laid bare many of its most delicious secrets immediately especially perhaps its sheer beauty of line. The solo woodwind writing for the solo violin, viola and cello, and its unquenchable lyricism. Yet, in the intervening 15 months doubts have crept up: would the score retain its freshness and its sense of the future would the slight defects in its structure come to seem deeper and less acceptable?

Sunday's performance at the Festival Hall by the London Symphony Orchestra under Colin Davis and the original trio of soloists—Gyorgy Pauk, Tibor Imai and Rolf Kirschbaum—should have dispelled those fears once and for all. That the score has some small defects was confirmed; the opening exchanges seem cluttered, and the characters of the soloists do not appear to assess themselves until they sing together, the reminiscence of Tippett's fourth quartet; the battery for gongs in the slow movement do not create the "bluesy" effect Tippett hoped for, and now only cloud what is a marvellously airy; the propulsive theme that Tibor Imai plays so well deserves a better fate than to be dismissed in favour of a return to the music of the opening.

Otherwise it is a radiant, lovely work, with a slow-movement theme that is as beautiful as anything Tippett has

written. The pair of interludes now seem precisely complementary, the first delicately turning to the world of the summer, the second to the winter. *Marriage*, the second, is short and debunking, a ragbag of jazz rhythms and vulgar trumpet smears. The balance between the soloists and the orchestra is sometimes balanced on a knife-edge; had the orchestral playing not been so carefully policed, the soloists would surely be less sure and eloquent, some of the important passages might have been obscured. It was, however, a superbly performed and well prepared performance; this week the soloists will record the concerto for Phonogram.

Tippett's inquiring, questioning music has often been paired in the concert hall with Beethoven. Here however the clash of minds was most mightily joined; the ninth symphony completed the programme. Davis's reading was absorbing, particularly in its presentation of the first movement, which seemed for much of its course to deny itself a centre of gravity, held up by a skein of lyrical strands without visible means of support. I presaged a view of the entire work which, taking its cue from the Tippett perhaps, favoured lyricism at the expense of weight and power. The scherzo was athletic, never overplaying its hand, the slow movement knitted together out of deliciously turned woodwind solos. Even the finale measured its strides with care; here the conductor was aided by a superb Chorus of its own kind in responsive form. The soloists not especially well balanced a quartet, were Leona Mitchell, Linda Finnie, Charles Craig and John Shirley-Quirk. For once the ninth symphony overwhelmed for the right, spiritual reasons.

by MARTIN DREYER

While the music departments of other universities unearthing worthy, if long forgotten, operas as an annual showcase for budding talents, York has persevered in a more esoteric tradition of music theatre, often with a contemporary bias. It has, after all, an image to preserve as a hothouse for the seedlings of the *avant garde*. That should not sound disparaging: none of our large orchestras in the present climate would have time for a work like Stockhausen's *Trans*, nor many other universities the depth of talent

to do it justice. So it was an inspired choice as the mainstay of a triple bill at York last weekend.

Not all of us dream in the kind of visionary Technicolor Stockhausen claims as the genesis of this work. No matter. For the first quarter of its 25 minutes, Saturday's performance challenged ear and eye to fierce combat, the ear overwhelmed by the impressionistic clamor of four hidden groups of wind, brass and percussion, heavily amplified; the eye straining to discern an elongated bank of 40 strings mistily enveloped in a warm, violet haze behind a thin gauze curtain.

From within this dense cocoon, details eventually began to clarify, thanks no doubt to Richard Orton's firm direction. An impetuous trumpeter apart, the dramatic *scenas* were not thrown sufficiently into relief: three string soloists articulated bravely but without theatrical success. Yet it was the unseemly brass, notably the virtuosos' lower voices, that emerged most forcibly from this maelstrom. The 40 seconds of silence were brilliantly cathartic.

Two premieres opened the evening. Not previously staged in Britain, *Paul's Case* (1965) by David Fawer, with five actors on a maze of ramps, succeeded splendidly but more through David Fawer's cleverly deadpan realisation than the composer's barely-notated rhythms, for stick and step, which leave much to the imagination.

Orton's own *Squats* was an amusing circus, despite its minimal musical content. As a detour, an apology for humanity's detour from the wasteland, an analogic slide projections, an outlet for useful energies, it was hugely enjoyed on both sides of the footlights.

...to cover a loud
hear (9)
Practice that makes us get
older (5)
Cartwheel going sideways in
season to plant (9)
Boiler with cylindrical con-
tainer for a large tea-party
... (4,10)
Hide from shower (4)
One who plays in diamonds
... is not working (7)
Wild flower in gold-coloured
vessel (7)
Turkish coin and note—en-
ough cas (7)
olution to Puzzle No. 4,725

...placed with the same
thing (4)
The lowest possible action
of a belly-dancer (4-6)
Constable required to appre-
hend parrot (9)
Schubert's quintet of in-
terest to Isaac Walton (5)
Agree to meet in a cattle
fair (5)
Rank action needed for
proof of possession (5-4)

DOWN

Under the influence of in-
coher. Spoomer would be
put it (5)
Maggie caught Alice's mas-
ter associate with Her Majesty
(9)
Pinch a drop of sealing-wax
as an amorous gesture (5, 1
4)
Person within an organisa-
tion imprisoned ringleader
(7)
Grape used to make German
port? (7)
Tom Bowling was their dar-
ling (4)
Is in drink in part of church
(5)
Store of crisp producers de-
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ACROSS

[illegible]

13 Fly! It could be a policeman! (10)

14 University petition to make up plastic (8)

15 Box with paper money in the lowest register (5-4)

16 Seek and select a witch (7)

17 Muffin in the American way with cancelled service (7)

18 A pool for Jack? (5)

19 Measured me spread out for drying (5)

20 Shoot a child (4)

[illegible]

FINANCIAL TIMES

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Tuesday November 17 1981

Trade dilemma with Comecon

EAST-WEST trade is at the crossroads. Several Comecon countries, especially Poland and Romania, have approached or reached the point where they no longer can call on commercial credit to pay for their imports from the West.

The West itself is divided about the future of the embargo on exporting strategically important goods to the Soviet bloc. Washington wants to tighten the vetoing procedure administered by Comecon, while the Europeans have their doubts.

On top of that a new OECD study strongly suggests that the increasing resort of eastern customers to barter trade has grave disadvantages for the West. The study points out that barter trade cuts across the western belief that free multilateral trade is most likely to bring advantage to both partners.

Indebtedness

The problem of indebtedness will take years to unravel unless one assumes, against the odds, that the Soviet Union, which is in a comparatively favourable position, will take steps to solve the problem. It may put some safer ground under the feet of bankers carrying Polish loans on their books. But one has to suppose that Warsaw sees the fund as a possible way of adding to its borrowing rather than reducing it.

Western differences about Comecon were merely papered over at the Ottawa summit in July. Officials are working on proposals for consideration next year. In the meantime no consensus has emerged even in Washington itself between those who regard suspiciously all sales of manufactures to the eastern bloc, and those who see some merit in not allowing trade links to wither.

Most of the Europeans take the more flexible view. Some of them at least share the view of Mr Leonid Brezhnev, the Soviet President, that mutual trade could also soften political confrontation in Europe. The most obvious case is the proposed pipeline to carry Siberian natural gas to West Germany and beyond. Washington believes that it would unduly raise Western dependence on an interruptible Soviet energy supplies. The Europeans, with Germany at their head, play down that danger.

The differences of viewpoint are not merely political, but have a strong economic element.

Civil Service management

THERE IS unlikely to be much lamentation, even in Whitehall, over the passing of the Civil Service Department, whose abolition was announced last week by the Prime Minister.

When it was set up in 1968 by the Wilson Government in the spirit of the white heat of the technological revolution, there were high hopes that the CSD would help to revitalise public administration in Britain. It was supposed to instil greater managerial professionalism and a keener concern for efficiency into a bureaucracy which had always prized the ability to analyse policy options more highly than the skills required for their effective implementation. It was expected to help create and administer a more open and modern career structure for a service which was still seen by the outside world as old-fashioned and narrowly elitist.

Impact

Looking back over the past decade, it is clear that, although some progress has been made along these lines, there have been more disappointments than achievements. Indeed the need for new attitudes in the Civil Service — on efficiency, promotion, incentives, and managerial responsibility — is as great now as it was in the 1960s.

In retrospect, it is not very surprising that the impact of the CSD in instilling these new attitudes was so disappointing. It was characteristic of the thinking of the late 1960s that new structures were seen as the key to achieving reforms which actually called for political determination as much as institutional change. The Fulton Report, on which the whole modernisation of the Civil Service was based, argued that "a separate institution with a single-minded devotion to its professional purpose" was needed to implement the reforms the Civil Service required. But the point which, in retrospect, the report should have stressed more strongly is that the "single-minded" devotion to improving efficiency would have to be imposed on

the Civil Service as a whole from the highest political level. The essence of the CSD's failure was its inability to command the political support which it was bound to require in order to overcome the established attitudes and practices in Whitehall. Without the requisite political commitment to more efficient government, and economy in public spending, the CSD never had the chance to develop its own administrative philosophy with which to challenge the practices of other departments.

Thus, if there is any reason to hope that reverting to the pre-1968 structure will help to achieve the improvements in efficiency which have so far eluded Whitehall reformers, it is because the present Government seems to attach greater political priority than its predecessors to this task. However, there can be no guarantee of further progress unless senior Ministers show continuous and detailed interest in Civil Service efficiency. There are obvious advantages in turning pay and manpower questions over to the Treasury, where they can be integrated more closely with the overall control of public spending. But the danger which was noted by the Fulton Report, that the Treasury's managerial functions tend to be swamped by its more glamorous policy role, remains as relevant today as in the 1960s. The same tendency is bound to exist in the Cabinet Office.

Emphasis

Furthermore, it is not only the Whitehall mandarins who put more emphasis on policy-making than on businesslike management of Government departments. Unless the Prime Minister can impress on her colleagues as well as on her Civil Servants in the Cabinet Office and Treasury that efficient and imaginative management will be rewarded as highly as political acumen, perhaps by giving a senior Cabinet Minister specific responsibility for Civil Service efficiency, the abolition of the Civil Service Department could prove as irrelevant as its creation.

CHINA'S POLITICAL pendulum is swinging significantly further from the more liberal and progressive policies introduced after the fall of the Gang of Four (Mao's widow Jiang Qing and her Shanghai colleagues) in 1976. At the same time, a growing tendency to soft-pedal the damaging aspects of the Cultural Revolution is emerging.

Since only last year this devastating Mao-inspired political movement was still held to be one of the most calamitous events in Chinese history, even the slightest pressure towards rehabilitation is important.

In the new situation, China's strong man, Deng Xiaoping, who introduced a wide range of reformist policies in 1978 and 1979, appears to have narrowed his sights to the key targets of restructuring the bureaucracy and giving the peasants and factories a wide measure of economic responsibility.

The People's Daily article in early November, composed of quotations from Deng's earlier speeches claiming to derive political authority from Mao and declaring war on inefficient bureaucrats was a key event and should be seen as a challenge to the growing power of the hard-liners.

It is a matter of argument whether this represents a willing compromise by Deng and his group with senior conventional communists in the leadership. The army particularly has objected to the post-Cultural Revolution freedoms, on which there has been significant backtracking in the last two years.

Deng, some would argue, has never been a true liberal and merely exploited the surge of



Despite his victory over the hardliners, Deng Xiaoping, China's reformist strong man (left), is still haunted by the policies of Jiang Qing, Mao's widow, while pictures of former Chairman Hua Guofeng (right) are still on display in the provinces

popular feeling against the Cultural Revolution in 1978 to get rid of his political opponents. That done, he is now happy to clamp down again, particularly as liberalisation brought unwelcome developments such as a loss of party power and a rise in crime and corruption.

But others view the trend towards portraying the Cultural Revolution in a less damaging light as an ominous sign of the growing power of the hard-liners in the leadership and continuing instability at the top. This view is reinforced by the onset of tighter control over cultural freedoms. It is, in any case, difficult to see how bureaucratic reform and economic independence can be successfully implemented in an atmosphere of rigidity.

A shift to a harder line is not a complete surprise. The Central Committee's apparent delay in reaching an acceptable solution on re-evaluating Chairman Mao in June was an early warning of this. That came after the final crackdown in April on the "democratic" movement which surfaced in 1978. But the line seems likely to get progressively tougher.

The incipient trend towards rehabilitating the Cultural Revolution has begun to encroach into the economic field. Although it is admitted that the Cultural Revolution was indeed a disaster, the October 1 issue of Red Flag, the party's theoretical organ, noted that the economy had made significant progress at the time. It even added that Chairman Mao

was "comparatively careful" in economic work.

While some of the production figures for those years show rises in output, Chinese economists have been at pains since to indicate that the policies were wrong and the figures deceptive.

The importance of "proletarian ideology" — in effect, the recognition of the commanding role of the Communist Party and its policies — has also made a gradual comeback, after years of stress on the importance of economic motivation. In October Ni Zhifu, the trade union boss (himself a model worker promoted under Mao's leadership) stressed that ideology and political work is the lifeline of all other work. Although the Chinese Press

explains that politics should not dominate to the exclusion of all other considerations, the theme of its importance has surfaced frequently of late in discussions of industry and education policy. This must still be uncomfortably reminiscent to many Chinese of the Gang of Four's watchword "politics in command."

The education and religious reform policies introduced in 1978 and 1979 are already being whittled down. Streaming and selective schooling for bright children have been abolished in some provinces. Belief in religion, permitted by the constitution and tolerated in some areas, is not compatible with party membership. Fujian province has now said. Two writers have recently

fallen foul of the authorities. early November the People's Daily criticised the author Jian for his novels of the 1970s which contained vivid scenes of terror, violence and Red Guard rape. These even the People's Daily said, were attributed to the "high instructions" and therefore formed an attack on Mao views.

This attitude contrasts sharply with detailed account in the People's Daily itself of 1979 of atrocities during the Cultural Revolution.

A Sichuan poet was recently attacked for describing a phantom "arrogantly" wandering over China. The Shaanxi province paper is vilified in such a way and in particular issue with a writer's portrayal of feudalism in socialist China. Until recently even the official Chinese Press carried articles criticising the legacy of feudal ideas.

This follows the seven-year-old campaign against Bai Hu whose filmstrip, Bitter Lo, outlined the tragedy of an art who returned to the motherland only to be hunted down as an enemy in the Cultural Revolution.

The changing cultural life is also discernible in the appearance of two of the "model operas" masterminded during her ascendancy by Jiang Qing, despite the scorn and ridicule heaped on the political works in the years immediately after Mao's death in 1976.

None of this necessarily argues that Deng Xiaoping is not in full control. It does suggest, though, that there is widespread resistance to ideas, and that he is not home and dry.

Eating bitterness and waiting for a showdown

By Alain Cass, Asia Editor, recently in Peking

ON THE surface, life in China has taken on a relaxed, almost carefree air. The cities are coming alive again. Free markets selling everything from sunflower seeds to television sets from Taiwan and smuggled clothes from Hong Kong are springing up in their hundreds almost daily. The shops are brimming with consumer goods. People have money to spend. And, for the first time in years, people are smiling again.

But, beneath this bustle, there is deep uncertainty. The Chinese are a nation of China watchers. They have to be. The Chinese media tell them little of what their leaders are doing, far less what they are thinking. Like foreigners, all but a tiny handful of privileged Chinese read between the lines and try to guess which way things are likely to go.

On the rare occasions that Chinese open up to a small

number of trusted foreigners — either friends of long standing, resident teachers or journalists under conditions of extreme secrecy — the picture which emerges is remarkably consistent.

The news of Deng Xiaoping's victory over the hardliners has yet to reach the furthest corners of the empire. In Yunnan province pictures of Hua Guofeng and discarded slogans of Mao Tse Tung still adorn walls. On the farms most peasants are refusing to implement the new responsibility system which marks the end of Mao's cherished communalisation policies. Not out of ideological opposition but because "they have seen so many changes recently," they want to wait and see," as one official put it.

In Wuhan, the industrial city at the crossroads of China, Mao's slogans, his pictures and those of Hua, have been taken down but not destroyed. "We have stored them in a safe place," said one official.

Foreign teachers report that educated young Chinese have become deeply cynical about the Communist Party and officialdom. They see no change in a system which "enshrines nepotism, bureaucratic dogmatism and the stifling of initiative," as one of them put it.

In one city a middle-ranking official (let us call him Li) spoke of his vision of China. He is married with two children and is reasonably well-off by Chinese standards.

Li is a patriot, not a dissident. But he sees little hope for the immediate future. There is no way of knowing how representative his views are.

"The shops may be full of goods, but the situation is getting worse every day," he said.

"What can you do? I just shut myself in my room. I say nothing. You know how things are done in this country. We three are factory managers," he gestures around the table.

"I say to you 'We'll marry our daughters to our sons, and then I'll put my son in your factory and you'll put your son in my office and then we'll be more than colleagues. We'll be friends, we'll be family.' If you're not part of the clan you stand no chance. You can't get your kids into university, your son can't get a job. But what can you do? Eat bitterness, that's what you can do."

The Lis keep their head above water because his wife works in a factory. They earn about £30 a month between them and have two children.

Li is not a typical Chinese bureaucrat. He is not a party member and believes the party is corrupt and ineffective but

sees no other alternative to socialism for China.

"If they try and send young people to the countryside again (as they did during the Cultural Revolution) I don't think the parents will allow it. Even if they try, but people ignore them."

"If I were running the country I would put money into education. Do you know that China spends less on education proportionately than virtually any other country in the world? How can we manage without a really educated, intelligent generation of young people?"

"These people in power talk of change. They don't know the meaning of the word. They think change and reform means more television sets. Change means less work and deep, radical reform."

But the bureaucrats won't allow it. Deng Xiaoping will never push through his reforms.

People are really afraid of what may happen when strongman goes. As I see there are two possibilities. Either a leftist movement much bigger strikes in present direction. Most people think the first possibility greater.

"The army is very unhappy at what's happening. They see it as a betrayal of Mao's policy. Deng only has the support of the intelligentsia. Watch army. They may hold the key."

"Also there is much bitterness left over from the Cultural Revolution. People who were responsible for terrible things are now still in power, in so-called working next to the victims. Nobody talks about hatred. But it's there, under the surface."

"There has to be a final showdown sometime. Things can go on like this indefinitely."

Men & Matters

Counter balance

"It's smarter to barter," proclaims Peter Stanley's slogan — and less than two weeks after launching his computerised swap-shop for British business he claims the mutual benefits already prove it.

Money's traditional role is being undermined by inflation and exorbitant interest rates," Stanley says. "Barter brings extra business giving our members access to new markets and at the same time it conserves their cash."

A one-time accountant who went into printing and publishing in Suresbury, Stanley learned the advantages of pre-money trading when none of his magazines sold advertising space to an airline in exchange for air tickets.

His newly-opened Great Lakes Trade Exchange — named after a U.S. barter group which has taken a 20 per cent stake — aims to extend such deals throughout British industry.

In the first week, says Stanley, more than 3,000

members signed up to offer their goods and services in exchange for others. Two computerised radio stations are negotiating advertising time with potential customers offering motor vehicles, office equipment, and even a computer.

"Everyone's happy because both sides are getting what they want without spending a penny," he says.

Stanley's U.S. links give him, and his customers, additional access to goods and services that may not be available in Britain. "Quite an export-import business has already started," he says.

"By linking members who want to barter goods and services, we have helped companies to get rid of surplus stocks and ease their cash-flow problems. This way they can keep their cash for the things they can't barter such as taxes, rates, rent and salaries."

Word perfect

Widely tipped for just such a post for months, Alastair Macdonald yesterday took over as head of the Department of Industry's information technology division.

The 41-year-old Under-Secretary now placed at the sharp end of Britain's thrust into these new industrial fields was a late entrant into his career as a journalist on this newspaper as a Washington correspondent and later London features editor.

Bright and charmingly, if blingly, witty, Macdonald quickly established himself at the DOI, first as an assistant secretary involved in the establishment of the National Enterprise Board and then during three years co-ordinating the department's contribution to the sector working parties under the NEDC.

After a year in the forgoing house of the Royal College of Defence Studies with members of the armed services, Mac-

donald returned to the DOI to head a branch concerned with public purchasing policy. His experience that should be useful when it comes to distributing the £80m earmarked for encouraging IT projects.

Macdonald succeeds Reay Atkinson, who won general admiration for his unrivalled knowledge of this still somewhat esoteric industry, and now becomes the DOI's director for the North-East.

A former head of the Central Computer Agency (now the Central Computer and Telecommunications Agency), Atkinson was responsible for buying all the Government's computers. Recalling the exacting standards he set both for the industry and the Government service, one authority described him yesterday, in a rare accolade, as "hardly a civil servant — he was among the few who are beloved by their industry."

Nil desperandum

Anxiously defending their public funds against further Government economies, the universities have organised a conference in London on Thursday to demonstrate the importance of their work for industry.

From the background paper, it seems that science and engineering dons will be out in force to recount the practical achievements of academia in such vital fields as creep-feed grinding, optoelectronics, organic transistors and acoustic cochleography.

But what of the arts? One thoroughly traditional arts department, I am happy to report, refuses to be denied a share of the limelight by the technicians. Durham University's classics department stakes its claim to a place in today's workaday world for its handling of "a steady stream of inquiries from industry on the meaning of existing mottoes, technical terms and references

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Observer

FINANCIAL TIMES SURVEY

Tuesday November 17 1981

Singapore

In the two years since the decision to restructure Singapore's economy on higher paid, technological industry, the growth rate has leapt ahead. The Government's plan also includes making the island republic the Far Eastern centre for finance and communications but measures to streamline the conduct of society may create resentment.

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evin Rafferty

draws to a close Lee
w's government, which
ed Singapore to more
years of record growth,
red some rude rebuffs,
is the loss of the Anson
in parliamentary seat
ted by President G. V.
fair. It was the first
a victory for 13 years
first time in 13 years
opposition member had
liament. Less noticed
ally, but potentially
ious, opinion polls and
indicated that Singa-
were refusing to fit the
f modern man which
n Yew had cast for

3. Jeyaratnam's win in
n by-election is not
wing down the Govern-
t it might shake up
its ideas. The opposi-
has precisely one seat
diment of 75 and has
acters with the same
personality as Mr
am who could chal-
f Lee Kuan Yew's

People's Action Party at a
general election. It was not a
fluke. Mr Jeyaratnam took
nearly 52 per cent of the votes
in a three-cornered contest and
had a margin of 700 votes over
Pang Kim Hin, the 32-year-old
mechanical engineer who is
part of the third generation of
leaders being groomed to take
over when Lee Kuan Yew and
the old guard finally retire (the
second generation are the men
in their early 40s who have just
reached ministerial rank). In
the general election, only last
December, Mr Devan Nair col-
lared 84 per cent of the votes,
so the electorate must have had
some message it was trying to
get across to Mr Lee.

It could not have been gen-
eral disillusionment with the
Government, as is the case in
many Western industrialised
countries. Singapore grew
steadily by 9.5 per cent a year
in the 1970s. Last year and in
the first half of this year growth
was more than 10 per cent. The
tiny city state, which has grown
to 289 sq miles through land
reclamation, has 2.4m people
and vies with Hong Kong as the
richest territory in Asia after
Japan.

Per capita GNP at the end
of 1980 was \$89,293 (U.S.\$4,446
at current exchange rates), or
higher than that of Hong Kong.
The Government, however,
modestly reduces it because of
the foreign contribution to the
economy and puts indigenous
per capita GNP at \$87,187
(U.S.\$3,482).

Lee Kuan Yew's unprece-
dented 22 years in power have
changed Singapore out of all
recognition. It is no longer the

scruffy Chinatown city that had
seen riots and deaths in the mid-
1950s and whose income depen-
ded largely on its entrepot
trading of rubber, tin, and
timber from neighbouring
Malaysia. Singapore has the
most pleasant environment in
Asia.

It has none of the disfiguring
slums that scar Hong Kong,
Jakarta, Bangkok and Manila.
About 70 per cent of its people
are housed in Government-built
tower blocks, which neverthe-
less have preserved a spick and
span spaciousness compared,
say, with the cramped blocks
cluttering Kowloon. The city
has parks and tree-lined roads.
Educational standards are high
and classrooms less crowded
than, for example, in Britain.
There are more than enough
jobs for Singaporeans.

Fostered

Singapore is the world's third
busiest port, one of the major
oil refining centres and an
important financial centre which
has given birth to and fostered
the growth of the huge Asia-
dollar market, now worth a
rich US\$70bn.

The ambitions of Singapore
are also large. The Government
is now embarked on a 10-year
outline plan that will bring its
per capita income level by the
end of the decade close to that
of Japan's level today. Singa-
pore is on the move.

Mr Goh Chock Tong, then
Minister of Trade and Industry,
in his budget speech this year
outlined the ambitions which
would effectively make Singa-
pore the brain centre of Asia.
He spoke of the plan "to
develop Singapore into a

modern industrial economy
based on science, technology,
skill and knowledge. If we suc-
ceed, we shall be less vulner-
able to protectionism . . ."

There are optimistic signs
that Singapore is on target to
its ambitions, such as the
increase in productivity by
more than 6 per cent in the first
half of 1981. This was after two
years of the new policy of high
wage increases.

There are also worries, how-
ever, stemming from the tiny
state's exposed international
position. Equally pertinent,
there is also the question of
whether Lee Kuan Yew can
carry along the people of Singa-
pore and make them match his
ambitions for them.

Singapore has sometimes been
called Singapore Inc. along the
lines of Japan Inc. It is an idea
which Lee Kuan Yew would
like to encourage. Singapore,
the adolescent industrialised
country, hero worships Japan's
progress and management and
labour practices.

The objective now is to per-
suade the multinational com-
panies to continue to invest in
Singapore, even though labour
is more expensive and the
domestic market is small.

The other objective is to
persuade Singaporeans to yield
all of their intellectual
capacities and energies for the
benefit of the state. One of the
differences between Japan and
Singapore is that Japan has
grown over the centuries and
developed through its own cul-
ture and the ingenuity of its
people. Singapore, on the other
hand, is being stamped to Lee
Kuan Yew's mould.

From small things to large
ones, from the most general
matters of policy to the most
intimate questions of personal
behaviour and practice, the
State has laid down the norms
of conduct. Two children is
enough; (men) don't have long
hair; don't waste water; speak
Mandarin and not dialects.
These are pursued vigorously,
almost ruthlessly. Carrots if
you are good, the stick if you
don't respond. A computer is
being employed to check
information on recurrent
litterbugs. Unsterilised couples
with more than two children
lose allowances and cannot get
their children into schools of
their choice.

Mandarin

Places on the sought-after
medical and dental courses are
rationed and students are
pushed into engineering instead.
In the interests of standardisa-
tion about half of all Singa-
poreans will have to change
their house addresses in the
next year or so. Schoolchildren
have to have their names spelt
in Pinyin Mandarin, which
means that John Ng, the son of
Peter Ng, has to become John
Wu; a child called Tjio becomes
Jiang. If Lee Kuan Yew were
at school he would have to
become Li Guanyu.

Mr Lee referred in his
National Day address in August
to the determination to extract
every ounce of potential.
"Success will depend upon get-
ting our workers better edu-
cated with better work attitudes
and more team spirit."

"Every worker must also learn
the right attitudes to work,

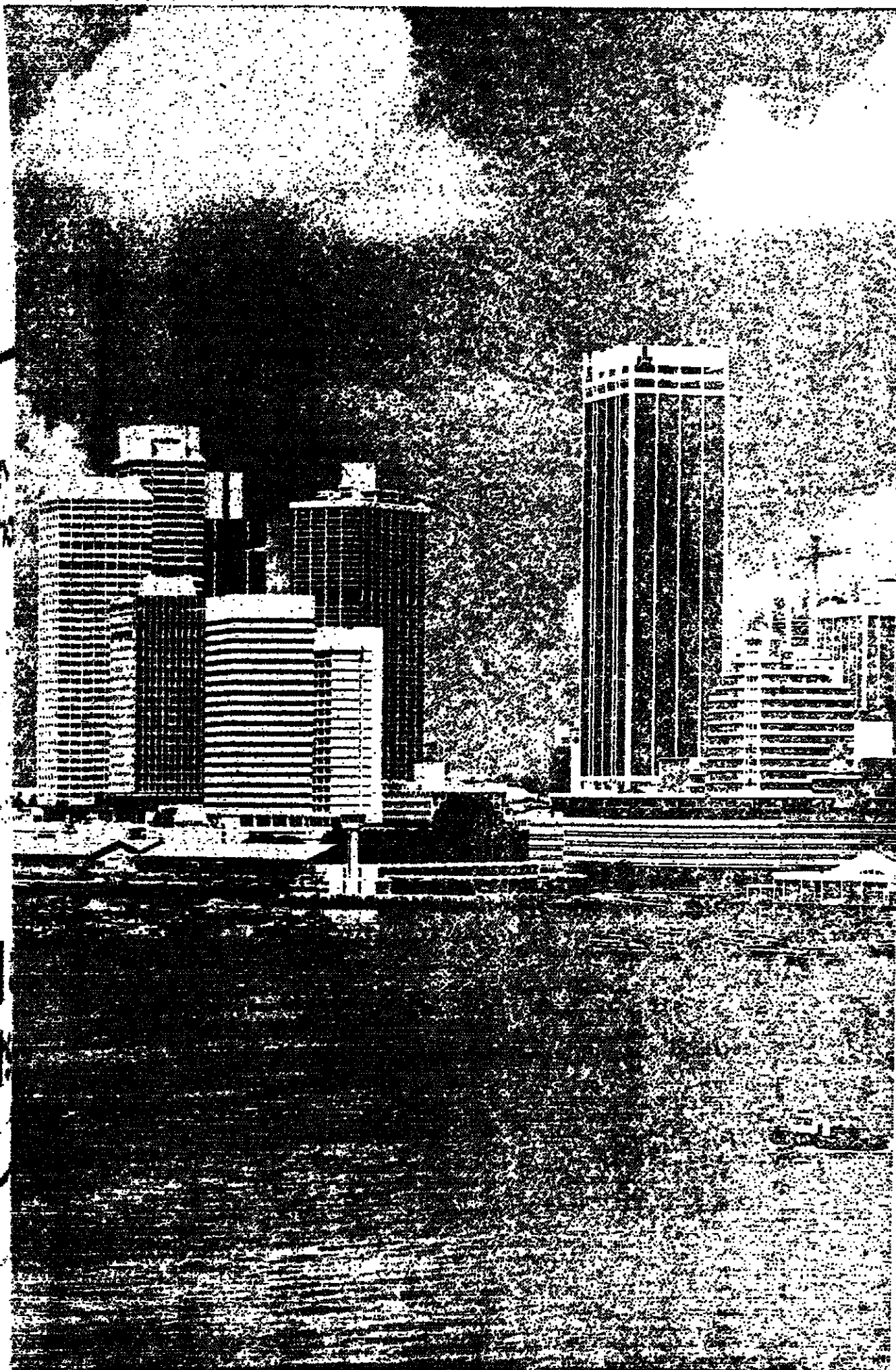
STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS					
	1980	I	1980	II	1981
ECONOMIC GROWTH					
GDP at 1986 factor cost (\$bn)	12.2 (10.2)	2.9 (11.2)	3.0 (10.5)	3.1 (9.9)	3.3 (10.7)
Index of industrial production (1978=100)	129 (12.3)	117 (13.7)	130 (14.0)	129 (10.5)	145 (12.1)
MONEY AND BANKING (\$m)*					
Money supply:					
M1	6,135 (7.5)	5,750 (12.1)	5,952 (17.8)	6,294 (9.5)	6,629 (11.4)
M2	16,065 (24.5)	13,862 (25.0)	14,411 (30.1)	17,304 (24.8)	17,565 (21.9)
Banks:					
Total assets	32,316 (24.6)	28,385 (29.5)	29,051 (27.7)	35,440 (24.9)	38,612 (32.9)
Deposits	16,035 (31.7)	13,219 (28.1)	14,945 (35.1)	17,292 (30.8)	17,927 (37.7)
Loans	20,207 (26.2)	17,380 (37.1)	17,718 (32.3)	21,220 (22.1)	22,425 (26.6)
Loan/deposit ratio (%)	126	131	126	123	125
INTEREST RATES (%)					
Prime lending rate	11.72	10.69	11.83	14.09	12.89
Three months SIBOR	14.19	16.30	12.94	17.22	17.55
Three months interbank rate	10.89	10.74	10.48	12.30	10.82
Fixed deposit rates:					
Three months	9.37	8.24	9.53	11.61	9.76
Six months	9.29	8.27	9.44	11.23	10.03
12 months	9.04	8.24	9.06	10.92	10.32
Savings deposit rate	8.83	7.05	8.07	10.05	9.12
TRADE (\$m)					
Total imports	51,245 (33.9)	11,783 (48.0)	12,652 (39.0)	14,017 (19.0)	14,670 (15.9)
Total exports	41,452 (34.0)	9,940 (54.6)	10,342 (43.4)	10,772 (3.4)	11,025 (6.8)
Trade balance	9,893 (33.8)	1,842 (20.1)	2,310 (22.2)	3,244 (76.1)	3,645 (57.8)
EXTERNAL RESERVES (\$bn)*					
	13.8 (9.5)	12.9 (8.7)	13.3 (10.5)	14.3 (10.8)	14.5 (12.0)†

NOTE: Figures in parenthesis refer to percentage change over previous year. * As at end-period. † As at the end of April 1981.

Sources: I—Department of Statistics. II—The Monetary Authority of Singapore.

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Editorial production by Catherine Darby; design by Phil Hunt.	



Shenton Way,
the financial centre of Singapore

When you've been the crossroads of the world for over 160 years, you develop certain skills in communications.

Ever since Raffles established Singapore as a trading post and free port in 1819, we've become the crossroads of the world.

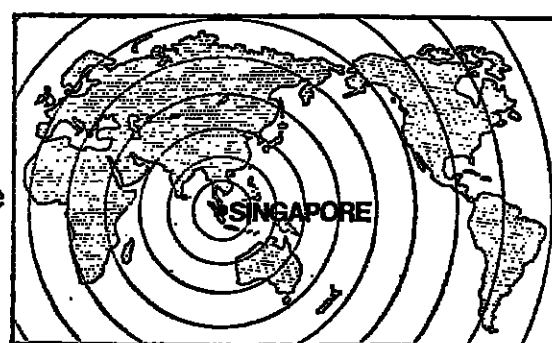
Our port is the world's second busiest; our airport, one of the most sophisticated; and Shenton Way, one of the world's important financial centres.

Naturally, such a flourishing commercial centre relies on high technology and efficient telecommunications.

Singapore's Telecoms offers telecommunication services of the highest standard, in national, regional and worldwide communications via satellite, submarine cable, HF, VHF and UHF.

Our services include IDD (International Direct Dialling) to more

than 90 destinations, Facsimile by IDD, Data, Telefax (international counter-to-counter high-speed facsimile service), Telepac (access to data bases and computers in the USA), Maritime Satellite communications, leased circuits, private user networks and specialised common



interest group networks. We even configure systems to meet customers' special needs.

Which means that we can literally put the world at your fingertips, within minutes.

So if you're considering Asia for your new business base or a worldwide corporate communications network, think hard about Singapore.

After all, when you've been the crossroads of the world for so long, you develop certain skills in communications.



We'll keep you in touch with the world.

Telecommunication Authority of Singapore.

For more information, please contact: The Manager, Business Telecommunications Sales, Telecoms, Comcentre, 31 Exeter Road, Singapore 0823, Republic of Singapore. Telephone No. 7343344, Telex No. RS33311.

SINGAPORE II

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Political scene unruffled by an Opposition gain

A STRANGE story is going the rounds in influential quarters in Singapore. It is that Singapore's new President, C. V. Devan Nair, is warning the office for Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew to take over as executive president after one or two terms.

The suggestion which has not yet attained popular currency is that the man who will succeed as Prime Minister will not be one of the bright young men in his early 40s taking a first step up the Ministerial ladder, but an even younger man in his early 30s. Currently making his way up the military ladder, a name suggested is Lt-Col and acting Col Lee Hsien Loong, who happens also to be the son of the present Prime Minister.

It is difficult to work out the source of the story, whether it is being floated officially or whether it is totally mischievous in origin. It is enjoying a certain topicality on the diplomatic cocktail circuit where it is dismissed as far-fetched because surely democratic Socialist Lee Kuan Yew would not contemplate anything that smacked of a dynastic succession.

But the progress of Col Lee has been noted by some influential Singaporeans. He has impressed with his chairing of ASEAN meetings where he sits alongside Indonesian and Thai generals nearly twice his age. The story also reflects the feeling that none of Lee Kuan Yew's young ministerial recruits measures up to the standards of Lee Kuan Yew or the old guard.

It should be made clear that no one has suggested anything unconstitutional about a rise to power by Colonel Lee. It is assumed he would leave the army before entering political life, but being Lee Kuan Yew's son his mettle would be firmer and more appropriate for governing Singapore than the rather bland bureaucrats who have been the favoured successors so far.

There has certainly been a lot of public comment and even controversy about Mr. Devan Nair's rise to the Presidency, which he took over at the end of October.

Singapore's previous presidents were not political men. The first was a Malay, Yusof Bin Ishak and the second a Eurasian gynaecologist, Dr Benjamin Sheares, who died in office in May. Both men were seen to keep the head of the republic out of the hurly burly of politics and lend a certain racial balance to the predominantly Chinese (78 per cent) Republic of Singapore.

President Devan Nair has always actively been involved in politics. He had Communist links and was interned by the British in the 1950s. He was never, he said, a Communist, but more an anti-colonialist. He then became a good friend of Lee Kuan Yew and helped to develop and control the trade

union movement as its secretary general.

He became an MP of the ruling party at the last election. Mr Lee himself proposed the parliamentary motion that Mr Devan Nair be chosen as President. The Prime Minister went out of his way to stress that in the past the new President had been outspoken and active.

Mr Lee said "I told him that becoming President did not mean that he had to be quiet and bland. At 58 he could not but continue to be himself. The difference was that in this role, he should be non-partisan. He would have to represent all Singaporeans. He can still be

at his moment of glory across all 75 seats in a general election would be virtually impossible. The winner in Anson, Mr J. B. Jayaratnam, enjoyed the advantage of being a more flamboyant figure than his young PAP opponent, Mr Pang Kim Hin. He also enjoyed support from the new opposition party, formed this year, the Singapore Democratic Party, led by Chiam See Tong.

Mr Chiam, like Mr Jayaratnam, is a lawyer. The Singapore Democratic Party, like the workers party, wants to safeguard individual rights including more freedom of speech and freedom of the Press. Mr Chiam is critical of the way

Kuan Yew's ideals and. Over the past two years a lot of about a dozen minister have been singled out as the generation of leaders. Prime Minister has himself to choosing mainly who came from the bureau. This seems to have been deliberately.

In a heart-to-heart talk the local Singaporean Bu Times a couple of years ago Lee expressed doubts about private sector and state preference for men from public sector. "The danger the Singapore context: longer you are in the p sector and the less self-plined you are, the more you are a disingly yo by the social values and of the private sector. It is a strong mind and a strong to keep high standard integrity. If we bring the political leadership a these wheeler-dealer attr (of the private sector), Singapore will be ruined

Limelight

Some of Mr Lee's young have come, been tested swiftly departed back in wilderness. Of the crop, Mr Goh Chok Tor joyed the limelight as Mi of Trade and Industry, re-able for presenting the l for two years, but he has pushed sideways to b Minister of Health. Hi seems likely to wane fur he was also responsible l lost by-election campaign.

The new Trade and I Minister is Dr Tony Tan Yam, a former banker. of the new blood again Mr Ong Teng Cheong Minister for Labour and munciations has had m experience at the grass rod Ong is one of the few l leaders whose initial ed was in Chinese which gi an edge over colleagues Singapore has a modern national gloss to it.

All the new Minister a reputation for stand awe of Mr Lee even in and will defer to him matters on which they ar posed experts. As the mentor continued: they come into a room t does not move—except f haps Supiah Dhanabalan. Dhanabalan is the F Minister and the only l in the group, so he pri feels less need to keep l over his shoulder at Cl rivals as the others do.

The problem is that a pore becomes richer, sophisticated and compil it will need leaders who present policy to convinc people. Lee Kuan Yew ably feels the need to kee options open.

INTRODUCING SINGAPORE

Singapore is a prosperous island republic within the Commonwealth of about 597 sq km. Formerly a British Crown Colony, Singapore achieved internal self-government in 1959. In September 1963 it became a state of the Federation of Malaysia, but seceded in August 1965.

It is the focal point of the international air and sea routes of South-East Asia and its port is the largest in the region. It is an important centre of banking, insurance and commerce and many of the banks and important trading and agency houses operating in Singapore and Malaysia have their head offices there.

colourful, still be approachable, still be pungent, but he must be above the political fray."

The local Singapore Press did seize on this point and speculated about the role of an executive President.

Reins

If Lee Kuan Yew were to move up to be Executive President he could continue to keep hold of the reins of Singapore to make sure nothing went wrong. He has spoken of handing over after another 10 years, which would be slightly more than two terms of a Devan Nair presidency.

Credence to the idea of Lee Kuan Yew moving up to be President comes from the present political state of Singapore.

In spite of the breakthrough by the Opposition, the Workers Party, in the Anson by-election for Mr Devan Nair's old parliamentary seat, the ruling People's Action Party (PAP) of Mr Lee Kuan Yew is in no danger of losing its control of Singapore. The Opposition's success was the first for years. Singapore is a tightly controlled state and while the Government continues to produce economic growth rates of 8.9 per cent and 10 per cent a year the people will stand by the PAP.

For the Opposition to sustain

that material gains have been pursued to the exclusion of other values.

"So concerned are we with pursuing material gains that many of us are prepared to act against our political conscience because we fear these gains may be taken away from us," he said. But the Opposition parties face a tough struggle to break the tight grip of the PAP. The Singapore Democratic Party tried to rent premises from the Government Housing and Development Board which owns housing estates and some shopping complexes. It was refused. Although the PAP has offices in several of them, the combined Opposition can match neither the resources nor the talent of the PAP.

However, the PAP also has more than its share of problems. The most immediate is accepting the Anson defeat after four consecutive general elections at which the Opposition failed to win a single seat. At the last general election the ruling party declared that even a single opposition victory would shake the confidence of foreign investors and upset political and economic stability in the island republic.

Much more difficult is finding second generation ministers who can measure up to Lee

Active leader against communism

DETERMINED not to be inhibited by its size—600 km—Singapore continues to pursue an aggressive foreign policy—opposing Communism everywhere but in particular in what it sees as its own backyard, Indochina.

Although foreign policy is conducted in the context of Singapore's membership of Asean (the Association of South East Asian Nations), whose other members are Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines, it is clear that much of the dynamism of the group on diplomatic issues comes from Singapore—although it is a fact both they and their fellow members would be reluctant to concede publicly.

Singapore's friends include the governments of the most powerful industrialised western nations, whose businessmen are already impressed by Singapore's open door policy towards foreign investment, and who look with favour at Lee Kuan Yew's unabashed espousal of the free market.

Its opponents are most communist governments, with the exception of China, whose Premier Zhao Ziyang, paid an amicable three-day visit to the republic in August. "The final aim of Asean and China, which is the withdrawal of foreign troops from Kampuchea and the establishment of an independent, neutral and non-aligned Kampuchea, is the same," said Zhao.

Although there is not, in fact, a complete identity of view between Asean and China on Kampuchea, the main thrust of Singapore's efforts in recent months has been the endeavour to make substantive progress on the Kampuchean issue.

Ever since the Vietnamese ousted the Khmer Rouge government from power in December 1978, the Singaporeans have been at the forefront of those who argue that Vietnam did not deliberately liberate Kampuchea from a bestial regime—although they did by accident. The Viet-

namese, says Asean have set up a puppet government of their own in Phnom Penh and established a de facto colonial presence there.

A combination of carrot-and-stick diplomacy by Singapore and Thailand brought three Kampuchean factions together in Singapore in early September. Norodom Sihanouk, ex-Prime Minister, Son Sann and Jeng Sary, one of the most notorious leaders of the Khmer Rouge whose followers are alleged to have massacred between 1m and 3m of their fellow Kampuchians between 1975 and 1978.

This unlikely combination promised to make efforts towards forming a coalition government—which, from Singapore's point of view, is designed to fend off accusations by some Western liberals that the republic shows a callous disregard towards the aspirations of the Kampuchean people.

Factions

Singapore's Foreign Minister, Mr Suppiah Dhanabalan, explains: "A coalition government will first, make clear that all Cambodian factions regardless of ideology are united in wanting to see the Vietnamese out of Cambodia (Kampuchea). Secondly, it will enable non-Khmers Rouge like the Son Sann group to establish themselves and grow. It will give them legitimacy and an opportunity to project themselves, both in Cambodia and in the world."

Progress towards the actual formation of this coalition is so far uneven, and major problems remain before the Kampuchean question is resolved. Mr Dhanabalan admits there is a flaw in the logic of Singapore's argument that "democratic Kampuchea" (i.e. the Khmers Rouge) has to be supported at the United Nations and in the non-aligned movement, despite its appalling human rights record, because its 30,000 guerrillas are the main

military threat to the Vietnamese, when at the same time Singapore insists that it does not want to see the Khmer Rouge re-installed in power in Phnom Penh.

The Singaporean position is not fully endorsed by all its Asean partners, however, with Indonesia and Malaysia looking somewhat askance at China's role in the Indo-China conflict—it supports the Khmers Rouge—when Peking is still actively engaged in supporting indigenous Communist guerrillas still operating in south-east Asia. Singapore does not have diplomatic ties with China but trading links between the two countries have been enhanced by the fruits of an agreement, signed in June last year which provided for an exchange of commercial representative offices between the two countries.

Singapore is expected to benefit from China's offshore oil development as a supply base for equipment the Chinese cannot produce quickly enough—such as offshore oil rigs. However, says Mr Dhanabalan: "Singapore will be the last of the Asean countries to set up diplomatic ties with China. We have told the Chinese our position and they understand it." Singapore's awareness of its status as a predominantly Chinese state surrounded by ethnic Malays fosters such sensitivities.

Equally, some Singaporeans are nervous about the intentions of the new Malaysian Government, headed by Dr Mahatir Mohammed. In his book, *The Malay Dilemma*, published in 1970 but banned in Malaysia itself until Dr Mahatir became Prime Minister earlier this year, the Malaysian leader made no secret of his reservations regarding Singapore's political and economic ambitions. Times have certainly changed, but Dr Mahatir's broadside against the British—also propounded in his book—have occasioned some apprehension in Singapore, despite

Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew's warm public endorsement of Malaysian counterpart.

Bravura

Relations between Singapore and its erstwhile partner in Asean have improved recently. So, Foreign Minister Dhanabalan says, agrees with Dr Mahatir's that there are now only "problems" between Mal and Singapore. Despite bravura, there is an improvement among many observers relations between the Asean states may be cordial in private, if no public, under the new regime Kuala Lumpur.

Malaysia's reported decision to review existing co-operation among Asean members international subjects, is not clearly understood, is causing concern in Singapore. Dhanabalan notes: "The Asean countries are currently studying how to improve the pre-structure of Asean to adapt its current and future process." However, this is a continuing process.

It seems improbable. Asean will enlarge its rank the near future, despite an action from Sri Lanka at this year and despite the fact that Singapore has been as long Sri Lanka with economic expertise, the Singapore seem reluctant to extend Asean's boundaries beyond South East Asia.

Mr Dhanabalan says while Sri Lanka's application is still under consideration Asean, "admission of a member from outside what normally regarded as South East Asia could introduce complications which we cannot afford at this stage of our development." However, Brunei's application, when the day of Sultanate in northern Borneo becomes fully independent from Britain in 1983, is more likely to be favourably received.

Kathryn Dav

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Rapid growth continues as economy is restructured

Last year of toil and a Singapore has proved obably the fastest grow-
omy in Asia and, per-
the world. Economists
that the successful
will continue. What
a future and whether
ernment can succeed in
its high-wage policy
attempt to shake out
unlucky industries and
to its own people to get
high technology.
so-called wage correc-
policy began in 1979,
re feared being caught
low-pay trap. Having
industries based on
es, ministers began to
t the country would for-
a magnet for low-wage,
ology, low-value-added
es. So they began a
nged attack to set
ght.
ears the National Wages
a tripartite body of
rs, unions and govern-
had deliberately been
the Government to keep
down and make Singa-
ports competitive.
1979, the Government
Council deliberately to
ges up, increasing the
n by 20 per cent a year
a warning that the
no longer wanted the
ustries. At the same
deliberate effort was
brought exhortations to
and through intensify-
ne search to lure new
ue, high technology and
ur industries to Singa-
These efforts are backed
impressive battery of
nal and training im-
nits.
ways, the Government
small island state was
aded about what it
nd a list of particularly
e industries. Was pre-
cluding computers, air-
l communications equip-
medical equipment, oil

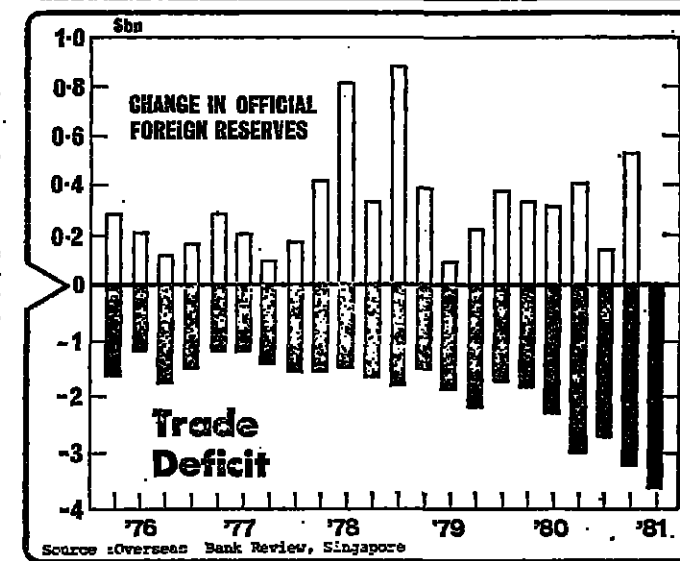
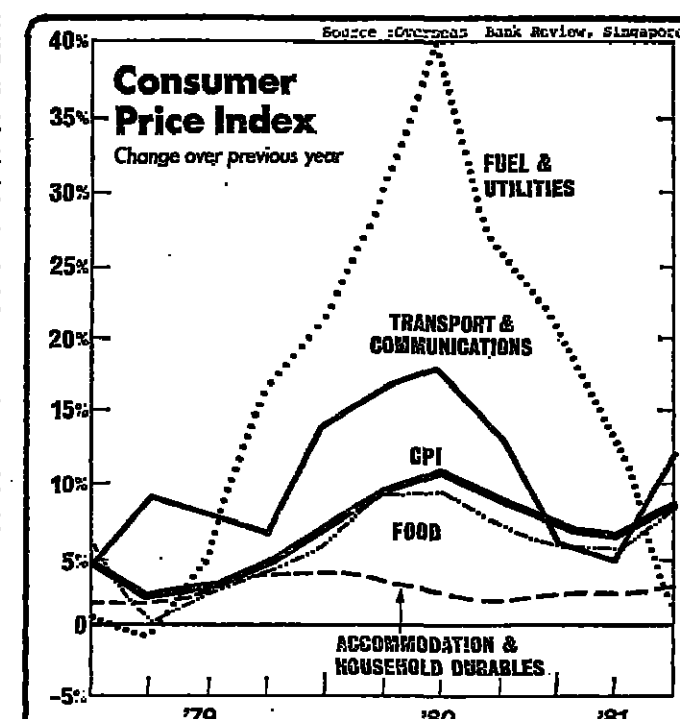
industry and support systems,
shipbuilding and repairing.
Manufacturing is projected
rise to 31 per cent of GDP by
1990 from 24 per cent today.
In terms of overall economic
growth, Singapore has certainly
been successful. In the first
half of 1981 the economy grew
at 10.3 per cent in annual terms
compared to the previous year.
This was in line with 10.2 per
cent growth last year and 9.3
per cent in 1979. The Govern-
ment expects that the rate may
fall in the second half as the
world recession hits harder.
Most economists predict con-
tinuing high rates. Chemical
Bank, for example, says that
growth for the whole of 1981
will be 10 per cent and 1982
will also be a 10 per cent year.
The two dark patches are in-
flation and the deterioration in
the current account. Officially,
inflation was running at 6.7 per
cent on an annual basis at the
half year, but this understates
the true rate because housing
increases are underplayed in
the official index. Some econo-
mists think that double figures
may be more accurate and the
rate of inflation for expatriates
is higher still.
The current account is being
hit by slow export growth and
depressed commodity prices.
The trade deficit may rise to
US\$5.8bn this year. Although
part of this deficit will be made
good by earnings from
invisibles such as shipping and
tourism. Chemical Bank, for

example, forecasts a current
account deficit of US\$2.7bn
both this year and next, com-
pared to US\$1.6bn in 1980 and
US\$900m in 1979.
Despite assurances that the
policy of restructuring Singa-
pore's economy by moving into
high value added sector there
are some worrying signs. Invest-
ment commitments in the first
half of 1981 were slightly lower
than those in the first half of
1980 and the foreign contribu-
tion was a great deal lower.
\$687.7m compared to more than
\$81bn in the first half of 1980.
The shortfall was nearly made
up by a huge increase in local
investment commitments.
Foreign investment was
traditionally been the driving
force of Singapore's manufac-
turing, and accounted for 86 per
cent or more of investment in
1980. The country does not
have the expertise or the
experience in management, let
alone the necessary advanced
engineering and industrial
skills, to cope on its own with-
out foreign investment.
A recent study found that
although they comprise only 13
per cent of all manufacturing
concerns, wholly owned foreign
companies account for half the
value added and two thirds of
direct exports in the manufac-
turing sector.
Singapore does have its own
entrepreneurs but they are more
visible in the banking and
financial field than anywhere
else. The other most go-ahead
companies—with a few excep-
tions—have been those which
are part of Singapore Inc., all
of which have strong Govern-
ment connections.
Singapore Inc includes Singa-
pore Airlines, wholly Govern-
ment owned, which alone
employs 1.4 per cent of the
labour force; Neptune Orient
Line, Singapore's national ship-
ping line, 69 per cent owned
by the Government; Sembawang
shipyard, 75 per cent owned by

the Government and a major
ship repair yard capable of
taking tankers of up to 40,000
dwt; Keppel shipyard, also 75
per cent owned by the Govern-
ment, whose quoted subsidiary
Far East Levingston builds oil
rigs.
There is also the Development
Bank of Singapore, which is 49
per cent owned by the Govern-
ment and is the fastest growing
of the commercial banks and
National Iron and Steel Mills,
a mini steel mill. And Intraco,
a 37 per cent Government-owned
international trading company
with substantial interest in
manufacturing companies, and
responsible for buying bulk raw
materials and developing over-
seas markets for Singapore-
made goods.
Backing these companies are
statutory bodies responsible for
key elements of policy, espe-
cially where economic and social
policy are linked. They include
the Post Office Savings Bank,
the Central Provident Fund,
which has a massive \$810bn
invested in it thanks to monthly
contributions of 20.5 per cent by
employees and up to 22 per cent
by employers; the Housing and
Development Board, which has
built the accommodation in
which 70 per cent of the popu-
lation live; the Urban Re-
development Authority, which
earned \$8150m from land sales
in 1980; the Public Utilities
Board, responsible for govern-
ment-owned electricity, water
and gas supplies; Telecommu-
nications Authority Singapore;
Jurong Town Corporation,
which manages Singapore's 26
industrial estates; and the
Economic Development Board,
which leads the search for
investment.
Singapore may still have
problems in extending foreign
investment to high technology
areas. It is a small country with
practically no market of its own
and with no natural resources
to boast of, apart from its

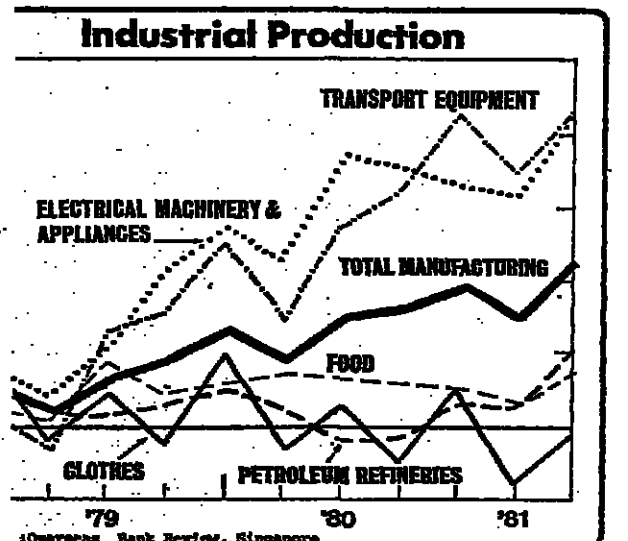
people and its position on the
world map.
These assets should not be
underrated. Singapore's posi-
tion and its already developed
expertise in communications,
including air links, shipping,
and telecommunications, in
finance and banking, mean that
it probably has an unassailable
lead as the centre for the South-
East Asia region.
It has already won American
Federal Aviation Authority
certification to build aircraft
components. It is already serv-
ing as a considerable service
centre for oil operations in
South-East Asia and hoping for
a growing slice of the Chinese
oil market. These activities will
undoubtedly continue and
prosper because there is no

should a Japanese or American
company set up electronics
manufacture in Singapore if
Singapore's wage costs are as
high as those of Europe and
Japan is being pressed over
trade surpluses in Europe? It
would be much simpler to set
up in Europe itself, thus curb-
ing some of the European
criticism. Why should an
American company facing in-
creasing unemployment at
home open or expand a manu-
facturing facility in far away
Singapore?
Singapore may attract extra
investment as the base for Far
Eastern operations, but the
investor has to bear in mind
several factors: competition
from other newly industrialis-
ing countries, especially Korea
and Taiwan, both of which offer
larger markets as a fall back
position and potential problems
of exporting regionally from
Singapore to bigger neighbours.
Asean is not even a European
Economic Community in terms
of economic cohesiveness.
Where products are based on
natural resources, bigger coun-
tries like Indonesia and
Malaysia have a definite edge
which may be worth the bureau-
cratic hassles.
Another question is whether
Singapore can keep up its own
tremendous pace, especially in
the education and motivation of
its own people. The numbers
and the sums involved are high.
In computers, for example,
where Dr Tan hopes to see
Singapore making its own micro-
computers and disc drives, the
country has only 550 program-
mers and systems analysts, 450
fewer than it needs. If any
country can do it, Singapore
probably can, but Lee Kuan Yew
still has to carry his people with
him—which, as the opening
article of this survey shows,
may be a tougher task than he
imagines.



PRODUCTIVITY				
	1980	1st half '80	1st half '81	
economy	5.0	4.5	6.3	
turing	5.0	5.9	11.2	
ce	3.6	0.5	1.6	
rt and communication	8.5	8.8	8.9	
il and business services	9.7	8.0	10.9	

REAL GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT				
	1980	1st half '80	1st half '81	
economy	10.2	10.6	10.3	
turing	11.9	13.9	11.3	
	7.2	7.5	6.4	
rt and communications	11.9	13.7	12.1	
il and business services	16.6	15.4	18.5	
tion	16.0	10.0	11.3	



HIGHER AND LOWER VALUE-ADDED INDUSTRIES			
	1979	1980	% increase
Following are figures extracted from the Census of Industrial Production. The highest increases in value added were over the period 1979-1980:			
1,083,722	3,411,129	3,961,814	16.1
4,475,488	5,162,922	6,703,376	29.9
8,842,260			31.9

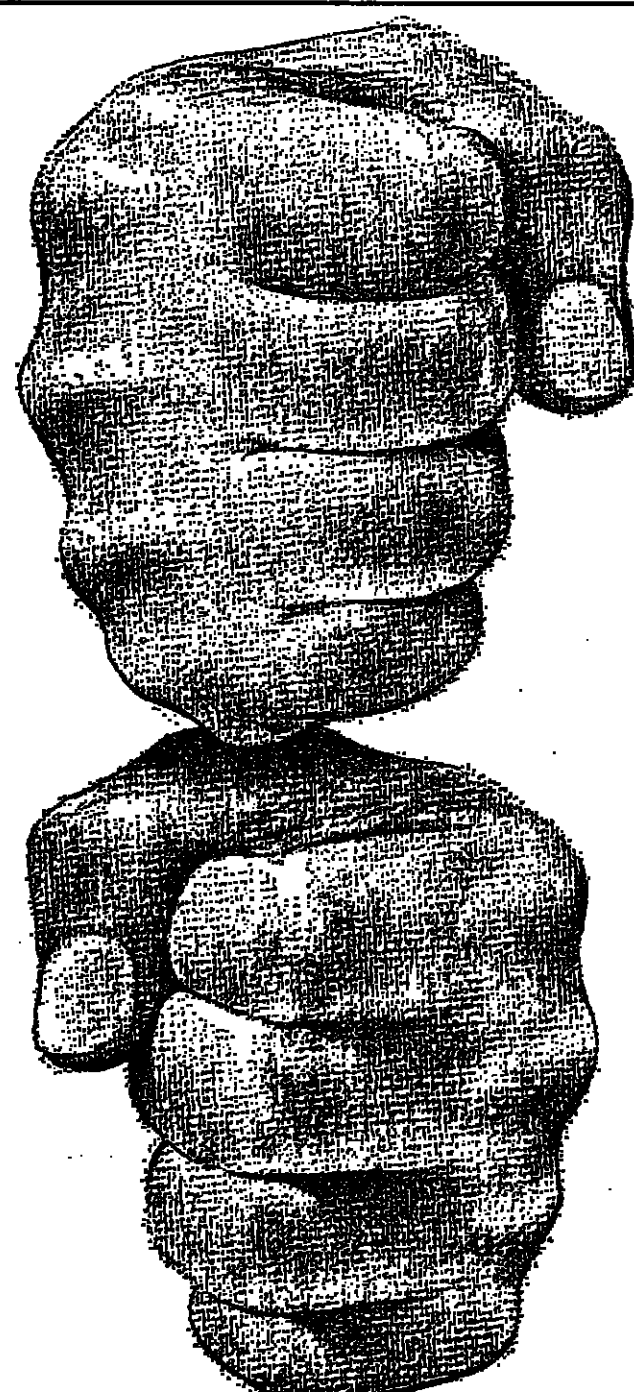
INTER-INDUSTRY COMPARISONS		
	Value added to output (%) 1979	
1. Textiles and Leather Products	25.7	
2. Chemicals	27.7	
3. Electrical Machinery and Petroleum Products	34.2	
4. Pharmaceuticals and other Chemical Products	12.7	
5. Iron and Steel	51.2	
6. Industrial Machinery	40.9	
7. Transport Equipment and Oil Rigs	46.6	
8. Chemical/Scientific Equipment	48.0	
9. Rubber Processing	44.2	
10. Other	7.5	



Dr Tony Tan, Minister of Trade and Industry: "The results in my view are satisfactory"

Fruits of two years

Dr Tony Tan, Minister of Trade and Industry, said in an interview with the Financial Times that the policy of restructuring the economy was showing success. "When we embarked on our policy of economic restructuring in 1979 our objective was to maximise the potential of our people by increasing their productivity and by moving into high value added economic activities. Two years have passed and the results in my view are satisfactory. Productivity rose almost twofold from 2.6 per cent in 1971 to 5 per cent in 1980. It increased further to 6.3 per cent in the first half of 1981.
"Manufacturing set the pace with an 11.2 per cent productivity growth in the first six months of this year. We have attracted more high value added and technological industries. Fixed assets per worker for new investment commitments (excluding petroleum and petrochemical industries) doubled from \$28,833 to \$56,557 while value added per worker rose from \$39,341 to \$54,992."
Commitments
Dr Tan continued: "Net investment commitments in the high technology industries such as industrial chemicals, petroleum, fabricated metal products, machinery, transport equipment and precision equipment sectors, have grown from \$331m in 1978 to \$1,837m in 1980. Value added per worker corresponding to these investment commitments rose from \$533,000 in 1978 to \$863,000 in 1980."
Dr Tan claimed that the shortfall in foreign investment in the first half of this year was the natural result of recession in the industrialised countries. He also said that there had been an increase in Japanese investment, which is a welcome change—for all Singapore's admiration for Japan, Japanese investment has been slow. In spite of the upturn the Economic Development Board is worried enough to be considering calling in U.S. consultants McKinsey to help with a Japanese investment promotion campaign.



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SINGAPORE IV

The socialist society produces unusually amicable relations between Singapore's rulers and workers. Kevin Rafferty discusses reactions to recent legislation.

Welcome for tougher labour laws

WORKERS IN the Apartan State of Singapore face a tougher future if they wish to take industrial action. Because of a new Bill passed without debate by Parliament at the end of October, such actions as a go-slow or a work-to-rule will in future come under the same tough rule as strikes. Indeed, the new law states that it is illegal to take any action "designed or calculated to coerce the Government either directly or by inflicting hardship on the community."

On top of this, next year workers have to come down to earth in pay negotiations too. After three years of rises close to 21 per cent a year, wage rises will be linked strictly to productivity increases.

Far from taking issue with the new rules, the country's trade union movement has been busy applauding and even helping the Government to police the regulations. The National Trade Union Congress (NTUC) proposed a scheme of advisory boards including ministers to supervise the conduct of unions. The idea is to prevent workers from being victimised by political agitation.

Servants

In any other place the union leaders' reaction might be startling. In Singapore, as in some other countries, there are close links between the ruling party and organised labour. In other places it is organised labour which holds the upper hand; but in Singapore, labour leaders are the servants of the Government and clearly regard it as their duty to bring workers in line with Government policy.

Mr Lim Chee Onn, Secretary-General of the NTUC, is also Minister Without Portfolio in the Government. He is not worried about the stiffer legislation: "The labour movement perceives these amendments to be in line with our interests," he said. "A work-to-rule is clearly industrial action. It disrupts the operation of the economy." Mr Lim said that strikes are not banned in Singapore, though it is extremely difficult to strike or to work-to-rule or go-slow. A secret ballot has to be held of all union members and if a majority approves then the industrial action can go ahead, but it must be stopped immediately either side calls for arbitration, and the finding of the arbitrator is binding.

"A strike is a serious thing," said Mr Lim. "You are disrupting operations. We have the right to strike as a last resort. Workers do not get paid, there is no production, and this can even lead to the demise of the company."

Singapore's recent labour scene has hardly been ruffled apart from a work-to-rule by Singapore Airlines' pilots last year. The new laws will prevent a petition of such trouble. Asked when there was last a strike in Singapore, Mr Lim could not recall other than to say, "It was probably three or four years ago, and probably lasted only for an hour."

On the question of pay rises, Mr Lim does not see any trouble next year. "In reality workers understand. They were told clearly that the wage corrections policy was for three years."

Mr Lim sees unions in partnership with the Government and management. His vision and that of Singapore Inc is fixed not on the problems limiting the economy today but on the opportunities of 10 and 20 years hence for which the foundations have to be laid today.

He wrote in a recent essay: "By the year 2000 we hope to have successfully inculcated in our workers good work values, productivity consciousness, and an appreciation of the need for continual re-

training or upgrading of skills in the course of their career. While we can expect our work force to be fairly well disciplined and technically qualified, the problem will be one of motivation."

The task of the unions will be to act as a conduit for communications between management and a skilled and educated workforce. Probably the unions will expand their role in running some essential commodities and services as they now run much of the Singapore taxi fleet and have a supermarket chain.

Mr Lim and his colleagues in government are trying to mould Singaporean workers to the 21st century. Higher wage increases were allowed over the past three years as part of a wage correction policy designed to chase out low technology, inefficient labour intensive industries and to attract high technology, high wage industries using fewer workers. Officially there is general happiness with the adjustments that are taking place. Sceptics are not so sure and say that this year's wage award was lower than the previous two because of foreign anxiety that Singapore was trying to push wages up too fast.

What will happen next year is not clear. There is some talk of a return to free collective bargaining, but Dr Tony Tan, the Minister of Trade and Industry, said it was likely that the tripartite National Wages Council would continue and would set ranges for pay awards on the basis of which employers and unions could negotiate actual settlements.

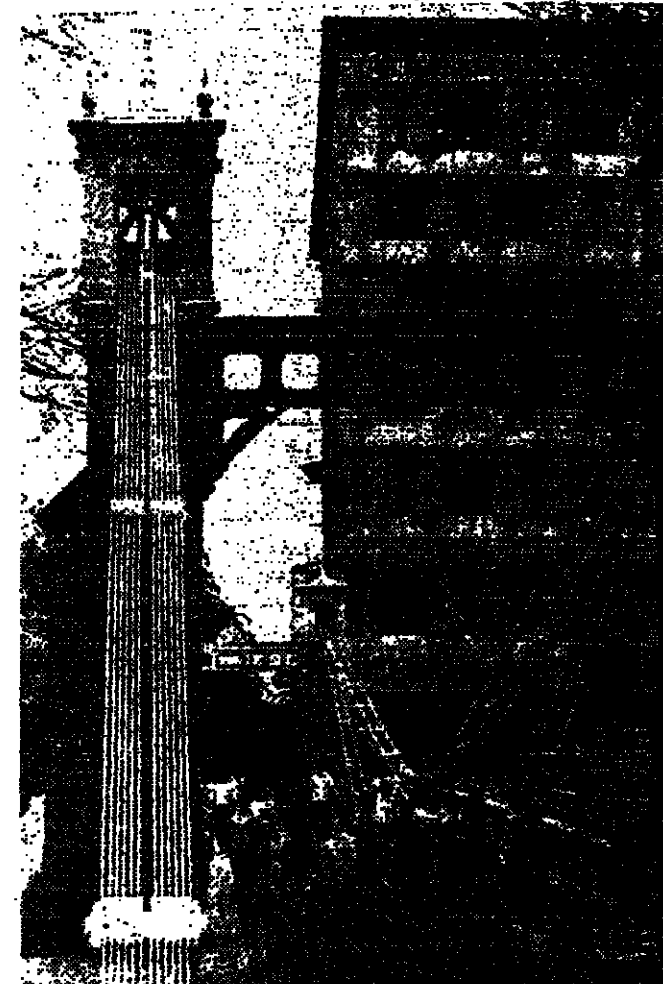
The Government is pushing Singapore towards emulation of the Japanese system of company unions. The 1981 report of the Committee on Productivity recommended that "industry-wide unions, general unions and craft unions should wherever feasible be restructured into house unions." Only 23,000 of the 240,703 union members (out of a total workforce of 1.08m) belong to house unions. The report also had an annex on Japanese business practices.

One bonus of adoption of Japanese style practices would be to bind workers to their companies and curb the worrying "job hopping" whereby a worker moves quickly from one job to another in order to improve his pay and status. If a way can be found of anchoring workers to one company then workers and pay and productivity and company and country can all be linked neatly together. The Productivity Report suggested that companies with more than 300 workers should be allowed to reduce the employers' contribution to the Central Provident Fund from 20.5 per cent of wages to about 11 per cent and the funds could be used to provide more direct benefits for workers. This would be another way of locking in employees to their company for life.

Drones

An indication of Singapore's successful growth and yet its failure is that it still needs foreign workers, both the brains to lift technology and the drones to do the humdrum jobs. Recently restrictions on entry of foreign workers were relaxed. Formerly labour came from Malaysia—but now the country is looking further afield to Indonesia and Sri Lanka. Some industries, notably construction and hotels where job hopping is frequent—along with the highly paid financial sector—are still highly labour intensive. In Singapore's hotels there are 1.2 workers per room compared to 0.7 by world standards.

Cautiously Mr Lim Chee Onn was so worried about the entry of foreign workers were said he did not know how many there were. According to Dr Tony Tan there are 120,000 workers or 11 per cent of the total workforce of 1.08m. This



The Cavenagh Bridge over the Singapore River leads from the financial district to the old Colonial heart of the city. The highly paid financial sector is still very labour intensive.

NET MANUFACTURING INVESTMENT COMMITMENTS

Updated as at June 1981 S\$'000 in fixed assets

	Total net Commitment*	Foreign	Local†	Total
1st half 1980	1,034,457	147,353	1,181,790	
2nd half 1980	207,694	56,102	263,796	
TOTAL 1980	1,242,151	203,455	1,445,586	
1st half 1981	637,642	432,919	1,120,561	

* Only larger local projects and local investment granted tax incentives are recorded.

† Investments in petrochemicals excluded.

Source: EDB

PERCENTAGE OF WORKFORCE IN VARIOUS INDUSTRIES

	1970
Agriculture and fishing	3.5
Quarrying	0.3
Manufacturing	22.0
Construction	6.6
Utilities	1.2
Trade	23.4
Transport and communication	12.1
Financial and business services	4.0
Other services	26.8

means it is the same percentage as in 1970 with an average net increase of just under 5,000 workers a year.

Studies at the National University of Singapore suggest that the growth of foreign labour could be more of a problem than Singapore has bargained for. If the economy grows at 8 per cent and productivity at 5.5 per cent, then 5,000 workers could be needed, but if growth is 10 per cent and productivity growth between 7 and 8 per cent, then up to 10,000 workers a year might be necessary. This would mean 220,000 foreigners out of a workforce of 1.42m by 1990, or one in seven. Even if workers are employed as now on short term contracts of between six months and three years they will need accommodation and other facilities. This could put strains on the social framework, especially if there are any privileges given to the foreigners.

Finally there is the question of whether Singaporean workers will prove as pliable and be as easily manipulated as the Government would wish. Already there have been troubles. The new Changi Airport had difficulty recruiting workers because of the distance and higher food and transport expenses involved. There is a limit to the extent that Singaporeans may be prepared to go. They want higher pay but they also want some kind of social life. The Government and Mr Lim Chee Onn may find it is not as easy to programme workers for Singapore 2000 as it is to programme computers.

A VISITOR'S GUIDE

CURRENCY

The currency is the Singapore dollar (\$). There is restriction on the amount local or foreign money may be brought into or taken from Singapore.

CLIMATE

The climate is tropical. The climate varies little throughout the year. The average daily maximum temperature is 30°C (86°F) dropping to 24°C (75°F) at night. Rain falls throughout the year, usually in short, sharp showers. The wettest season is between October and March when the average annual rainfall is 91 inch.

CLOTHING

During the day shirt and trousers are worn almost everywhere although some men wear light-weight suits because of the very cold air-conditioning. A safari suit is acceptable. Lounge suits are sometimes worn in the evenings when dining in hotels, restaurants and clubs. Women will find cotton dresses suitable for most daytime wear while long dresses are usually worn for evening or formal occasions. Rain coats are not worn.

TIPPING GUIDE

Hotel staff: The Government is attempting to eradicate tipping, particularly in hotels and restaurants. Visitors will often find the bills worded "no tipping please." In these cases there is normally a percentage addition to the bill. In other cases tips are usually expected only for porterage and room service. Tips in respect of porterage are usually 50 cents per case. There are no hard-and-fast rules about tips for most services. Taxi drivers: Tipping is not customary but visitors wishing to do so should tip 10 per cent of the bill. Restaurants: Some restaurants may add 10 per cent service charge to cover tips. Elsewhere a 10 per cent tip is adequate. Coffee shops: As for restaurants.



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In a book known as 'The Travels of Marco Polo', he related his experiences. He introduced the world to 'black stones' (coal) to a 'fountain of liquid' (petroleum), and to such new notions as paper currency, coconuts, tattooing, pearls and jade, and what we know now as ice cream.

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AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

Occupation	1976	1979	1980	% change over previous year	1979	1980
All workers	\$ 121.3	\$ 142.8	\$ 161.4	8.8	13.0	
Professional, administrative, managerial and related workers	319.7	341.9	377.0	6.9	10.5	
Clerical, sales, service and related workers	108.5	116.6	130.3	7.5	12.2	
Production, transport and other manual workers	88.2	96.6	110.4	9.5	14.3	

Source: Ministry of Labour.

ESTIMATES OF JOB CREATION BY SECTOR

Sector	1st qtr 1980	2nd qtr 1980	1st half 1980	1st qtr 1981	2nd qtr 1981	1st half 1981
Agriculture	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mining and quarrying	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manufacturing	4,000	6,000	10,000	3,000	—1,000	2,000
Electricity, gas and water	—	—	—	1,000	2,000	3,000
Construction	—	—	—	—	1,000	6,000
Commerce	3,000	2,000	5,000	5,000	—	—
Transport, storage and communications	—	—	—	1,000	—	—
Financing, insurance, real estate and business services	2,000	3,000	5,000	3,000	3,000	6,000
Community, social and personal services	1,000	2,000	3,000	2,000	1,000	3,000
TOTAL	10,000	14,000	24,000	14,000	6,000	20,000

Source: CPF Records.

Note: Figures are rounded

Eastern delights but Western comforts

S dropping into Singapore without booking in advance may seem like a gamble. The hotel lists and face the refusals in many Hotel occupancy rates in the high 80 to 90 per cent. Singapore's popularity at the top of the travel league with its expected this year. On Kim Chuen, director of Singapore Promotion, the happy for the hotels and the difficult one for the will continue for at after two years in spite addition of 1,500 hotels last year. The easy to see the attraction for visitor. The and republic is nicely on air routes between the Far East and Australia the businessman it is ous heart of the fastest region of the world, a clean, westernised city English is spoken; all conveniences are on id where things work hassle. The lovers of foreign Singapore offers "in-sia" a good mix of Malay and Indian slices which can all be packed a safe, hygienic way. course, Singapore shoppers with its palm-free stores and back lists offering anything French perfume and ated electronics equip- a snake charmer's flute y toothpicks. The problem is that growth vers of hotel rooms has t pace with the rising eness of Singapore. In 1970s there was glut of

hotel rooms which discouraged the authorities from allowing more to be built. During the late 1970s the tourists caught up to the hotels and the authorities paved the way for a spate of new buildings.

Raffles City

Over the next four years about 10,000 hotel rooms will be added to the 13,700 today. Mr Yuen says there are several big and exciting projects under construction including Raffles City an 8th Marina Complex. At a visitor growth rate of 10 per cent a year, by 1984 and 1985 hotels will be able to cope. The object is to keep occupancy at a comfortable 80 per cent. Raffles City, when it opens in the mid-1980s will have a 2,000-room hotel, convention, office and shopping facilities. The Marina Complex is even more ambitious. It has four hotels under construction and sites have been sold for another two multi-storey hotels which have the space-age look of a rocket about to take off. One of them sits on the drawing board at more than 80 storeys, though height restrictions may lop off 15 to 20 floors.

Raffles City includes a 4,000-seat convention hall and the marina complex one able to take 5,500 people. The tiny island is hoping to attract more of the freer spending big business travellers. It is easy to see the attractiveness of tourists for Singapore. Last year the country made S\$2.83bn from tourist earnings. This is equivalent to U.S.\$1.36bn. Not quite at the top of the Asian league but a good money-spinner. Many of the tourist arrivals in Singa-

pore come from neighbouring countries like Malaysia and Indonesia.

Malaysia alone accounts for almost 20 per cent of the visitors—not surprising when Singapore is only a 40-minute flight away from Kuala Lumpur and only an hour's drive from Johore Bahru at the tip of Malaysia—provided there is no delay over customs clearance. Many of the Malaysian visitors drive across to pick up duty-free bargains just before festival times.

Malaysia's recent budget removing duties and taxes from goods like garments, cameras, electrical goods, watches may discourage spending spree trips to Singapore—the goods will probably be cheaper at home. This caused a brief flutter in Singapore which had about 300,000 Malaysians visiting last year, spending an estimated S\$750m.

Many of the visitors are stop-over travellers on the long haul routes between Europe and Australia. This is why Singapore is trying to encourage more business visitors who will stay longer, stay at the more expensive hotels and spend more freely.

The Tourist Board is continuing its promotion campaigns worldwide, supported by the 8 per cent levied on hotel services. Mr Yuen said: "There are still places in the world where Singapore is not yet a household name. Our market is world-wide."

The rapid growth in tourist traffic has not been without its problems. The hotel labour market is tight and hotels find it difficult to keep their staff. As a result there have been increasing grumbles from visitors that standards of service have declined. The successful no tipping campaign has also discouraged extra courtesy. Door-men have to be asked to whistle up a taxi—which they sometimes do reluctantly, and bellhops are often unavailable to carry baggage.

Hotel prices have also risen, so Singapore is no longer in the cheap league as it was a few years ago. Given the stronger Singapore dollar, first class hotels in Malaysia are cheaper. Here again there is a wide gap between what the agents are charging and what the walk-in customer has to pay.

A VISITOR'S GUIDE

HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS

To cater for the increasing number of visitors many new hotels, all fully air-conditioned, have been built in recent years. Most of these are in the Orchard Road area. Daily rates for a single room with a bath vary between S\$45 (US\$23) and S\$155 (US\$75). At most hotels a 10 per cent service charge is added to the bill. There are restaurants at most hotels where table d'hôte or a la carte meals are served. Bed and breakfast terms are available at some hotels.

HEALTH

All visitors must be in possession of a valid International Certificate of vaccination against smallpox, yellow fever and cholera if travelling from infected areas. To avoid delays, however, all visitors are strongly recommended to be in possession of a cholera certificate. Visitors arriving from infected areas are sometimes liable to be medically inspected.

The margin has to be preserved because of the heavy tour group traffic.

For Singapore there is the tricky decision of how much more of Chinatown and the Old Colony to pull down in order to put up modern skyscrapers. It is still possible to move quickly from airconditioned 20th century to Old Asia—sometimes you only have to cross the street. The riverside loading of lighters by Chinese in vest and short pants, the food stalls and coffee shops, the Indian temples, even spindly mounted Malay Kampongs are still there.

But some modern Singaporeans would like to do away with it all and paint it with a new plastic coat. Kampongs are being demolished, some temples have been bulldozed and even the dead were disturbed to make way for progress at Changi Airport. A sign of the times was the headline in a local paper last month that coffee stall holders might have to "dress up" to keep in tune with modern Singapore.

Michelle Misquitta

STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS (Year ending, 31 December 1980)

	1980*	1979	% change
Visitor arrivals	2,562,085	2,347,091	+14.0
from Asia	1,646,285	1,439,841	+15.1
from Europe	413,473	375,873	+10.0
from Oceania	311,846	275,472	+13.2
from the Americas	172,047	145,554	+18.5
of conventions/meetings	220	158	+39.2
of hotel rooms	12,756	12,159	+4.9
of hotel rooms and			
action (as of 31.12.80)	5,186	2,716	+39.6
earnings (\$m)	2,326	2,439	+15.9
inary			
lia, New Zealand and South Pacific Islands			

PLANNED UNIVERSITY UNDERGRADUATES INTAKES

Total	Arts & Social Sciences	Science	Medicine	Dentistry	Law	Engineering	Architecture	Building/ Estate Mgmt.	Accountancy	Business Admin.
2636	698	567	140	36	97	514	52	72	237	313
3067	696	604	160	38	114	651	98	85	265	336
3484	766	634	160	38	138	781	102	110	325	370
3974	843	798	203	38	165	937	104	114	365	407
4453	900	910	203	38	201	1100	106	117	425	453
4459	900	910	203	38	201	1100	106	121	425	453
4486	900	910	203	60	201	1100	111	123	425	453
4610	900	910	203	60	220	1200	113	126	425	453
4615	900	910	203	60	220	1200	115	129	425	453
4619	900	910	203	60	220	1200	117	131	425	453
4626	900	910	203	60	220	1200	121	134	425	453
4633	900	910	203	60	220	1200	125	137	425	453

Heavy pressure on education

Singapore's attractions as a well-educated and hardworking. But in the drive to upgrade the Singaporean workforce is under way, and more are entering the university and training centres. By 1980's Singapore will have 1,000 engineers, technicians and 10,000 workers a year, according to Tong Dow, chairman of Economic Development.

During an ever-more labour force, in terms of, may not be earlier this year Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew, was the way in which in students, who have tertiary education degrees, are unaware as on the factory floor. ted that both students and professors should be during the vacation they will understand the product that they ed to produce in the ad what he is super-

kind of on-the-experience obviously re co-operation of the rator and academics to polar out that this is a forthcoming. The achievement programmes y part of the curri-cular system. But indus-

with NUS to make the programme a success." Professor Cham Tao Soon, who heads the engineering faculty, says.

During last year's long vacation, letters were sent to 230 firms asking for permission to send a student for a few weeks' practical experience. Only 136 responded and the faculty found places for only 428 students out of a total of 2,000. The problem is likely to be aggravated when the Nanyang Technological Institute (formerly Singapore's Chinese University) is enlarged to take its full complement of 1,200 students by the mid 1980s. The Ngee Ann Technical College, which has a greater bias towards practical training, has less difficulty in finding suitable vacation work for its students, but recognised there is still a gap between academic achievements and their application to real life.

"Increasing the practical training of students is a line towards providing the necessary infrastructure to move towards higher technology industries in the 'eighties. We need more practically-orientated engineers, but at present we are not providing the desired quantum of practical work," says Mr M. M. Roda, Ngee Ann's head of mechanical engineering. In education, as in other areas, Singapore is prepared to seek outside expertise—an attitude which does not consistently find favour with the local academic community. The Economic Development Board, which has responsibility for drawing in more sophisticated foreign investment, had already set up four joint training centres, three of them with foreign multinationals and the fourth with the Japanese Government. By April 1 this year 1,728 apprentices had graduated from these centres, with trade skills which include electrical engineering, precision

optics, industrial electronics and industrial machinery maintenance. 1,340 others are undergoing training.

But on a more sophisticated level, three new institutes of technology are being set up, with the co-operation of the German, French and Japanese governments. The French-Singapore Institute will train technicians in electro-technology, while the Japan-Singapore Institute of Software Technology (JSIST) will train technicians for key computer software industry, which the government hopes will take off in the next two or three years. The German-Singapore Institute will train up to 400 production engineering technicians when it opens its doors early next year.

Urgency

While foreign investors are generally confident that the Government is putting sufficient urgency into upgrading the Singaporean work force, in line with its overall economic strategy, some complain that their local employees lack initiative and are reluctant to take independent decisions. They trace the cause of the problem to Singapore's pressure-cooker educational system which forces children to be competitive even in primary school and does not encourage pupil-teacher dialogue.

Earlier this year a survey carried out by the Singapore Teachers' Union (STU) revealed that both teachers and students in primary and secondary schools felt there was under greater pressure than ever before. The survey was a follow up to the reforms implemented after Deputy Prime Minister, Goh Keng Swee, had revived the educational system in 1978. The main thrust of the reforms was that children should be streamed according to ability after their

first three years of primary education, together with heavier emphasis on bilingualism—in practice, a tilt towards the teaching of mandarin.

The study revealed that a lack of communication between the Education Ministry and the schools was causing confusion in the classroom. Of the 1,500 teachers from 170 primary and secondary schools who responded to the survey there were those with low morale, depressed by frequent changes, bewildered by new expectations and without inspiring insights. Most teachers felt that children were not doing well under the new streaming system, a point reinforced by management consultant Leong Cheong Cheong, who argues that the present system favours those who do well in languages, even if they perform poorly in science or mathematics. Leong also says that streaming at primary level means that "eight-year olds... from socially disadvantaged homes are more vulnerable to being mauled and left behind."

There is no sign at the moment of any major change in government thinking on education, says trade and industry minister Mr Tony Tan. "The objective of our education and training plans is to realise the full potential of our people, reduce educational wastage and ensure that the right people are channelled into the right areas of work. To support our economic restructuring programme in the eighties we will produce professional, technical and skilled manpower in sufficient numbers." The demands of the Singapore economy are likely to weigh more heavily with educational decision-makers than the unsettling effect of change on parents, teachers and children.

K.D.

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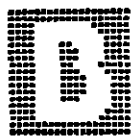
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Legal Status.

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The 4 basic strengths of Germany's largest banking sector

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Greater appeal for the technology industries

SINGAPORE's ambitious plans for a high technology brain-intensive economy in the 1980s appear to be bearing fruit, although it is too early to tell whether they will be a complete success. The third, and final, year of officially-sanctioned high wage increases (by about 19 per cent) was assigned to give an extra push to companies currently upgrading their activities. It was also meant to signal to newcomers that they would have to pay a relatively high price for anything less than capital-intensive enterprises.

The policy of deliberately forcing wages up for three years in succession was a risky one, given the possible inflationary and employment consequences, but official figures suggest that neither foreign nor local investors, have been unduly deterred. The second-generation leader who took over the trade and industry portfolio in June, Mr Tony Tan, is now preparing his budget—due to be presented in February or March next year. Mr Tan says that in his view the results of economic restructuring so far are satisfactory. Productivity doubled from 2.6 per cent in 1979 to 5 per cent in 1980 and then rose by 6.3 per cent in the first half of 1981. The manufacturing sector grew by 11.2 per cent in the first six months of this year.

Doubled

But most importantly, "We have attracted more higher value-added and higher technology industries." Fixed assets per worker for new investment commitments (excluding petroleum and petrochemical industries) doubled from \$228,838 in 1980 to \$556,557 in the first half of 1981, while the value added to output per worker rose from \$39,941 to \$854,992.

Furthermore, says Mr Tan, net investments in the higher technology industries targeted by the Government as key areas are also rising. Under a broad band of industries such as industrial chemicals, petroleum, fabricated metal products, machinery, transport equipment and precision equipment, net investments have grown from

\$5319m in 1978 to \$31,537m in 1980. Value added to the output of workers in these strategic economic areas rose from \$333,000 in 1978 to \$863,000 in 1980.

The core of Singapore's growth in the 1980s is based on five sectors: manufacturing, trade, tourism, transport and communication and brain-services. The Government envisages an expanded role for the specialised services Singapore is able to offer—its experience as financial centre, its skills in medical consultancy and, perhaps most crucially, its growing expertise in computer software.

It is not yet quite clear what the government has in mind when it talks of turning Singapore into a centre of computer expertise and some critics doubt whether the republic can make much of an impression on what is already a highly competitive international market, dominated by the Americans and the Japanese. However, the creation of the Japan-Singapore Institute of Software Technology (JSIST) to provide professional manpower needed in the field of computer software as well as IBM's co-venture with the National University of Singapore (in the Institute of Systems Science) indicates that Singapore is prepared to spend a great deal of money on its dream of becoming an exporter of computer expertise.

But one computer manufacturer cautions: "You have to crawl before you can walk" and it seems likely that Singapore will have to concentrate on penetrating a more localised market in Asia before extending itself further overseas. Nevertheless, Singapore software harnesses to Japanese hardware, could prove a formidable competitive entity in the mid-1980s.

In its latest annual report, the economic development board, (EDB), upon whose shoulders much of the responsibility for attracting high technology investment has fallen, notes that in major industrial sectors pinpointed by the committee, "an interesting range of new projects was established because of the greater availability of industrial skills and the continuing expansion

and quality upgrading of a number of supporting industries and services."

The performance of the petroleum industry confirmed Singapore's importance as the third largest oil refiner in the world, with a total refining capacity of 1.1m barrels per day. The value added to the basic refined product jumped by no less than 86 per cent in 1980 because of new secondary processing facilities. This secondary refining capacity will be further boosted when Mobil's visbreaker and Shell's hydrocracker projects come on stream in 1982, says the EDB.

Record level

Productivity in another key area, the chemical industry, has grown significantly in the past decade adding value per worker from \$312,800 in 1970 to \$869,900 in 1980. Last year the chemical industry as a whole attracted a record level of net investment commitments at \$3170m worth of new projects. Once again, the oil companies loom large. Shell, Exxon, and BP are all in the process of setting up plants to manufacture chemical derivatives. The \$52m joint venture petrochemical sector—Sumitomo being Singapore's partner—is currently being constructed on one of the republic's outlying islands.

Pharmaceuticals, also designated as an area of strategic growth for Singapore, received what is called "a shot in the arm" when the British pharmaceutical group, Glaxo, set up its \$5100m plant in Jurong's industrial estate last year.

The marine industry, involving shipbuilding, repairing, and oil rig construction, is also performing satisfactorily, in line with Singapore's aims for the 1980s.

In addition to being the world's second biggest port, Singapore has won a big slice of the oil rig construction business, occasioned by major oil finds in South East Asia. Singapore won 38 out of a total of 176 contracts for the construction of oil rigs placed round the world in 1980.

The electronics industry—the largest in Singapore in terms of employment and value



The Communicasia 81 exhibition is to be held in Singapore from December 9. British Telecom is showing a number of its latest developments in exhibition and British Telecom, its computer arm, will provide advice. This picture shows an electron beam microfabricator in use where an electron beam microfabricator is used to draw microscopic circuits on microchips—play an important role in digital communications and computer-controlled exchanges

added to output—boomed in 1980 but has shown slight signs of faltering in 1981. A projected wafer diffusion plant was recently said to have been deferred by a softening in the market for electronic tools and components.

But the aircraft industry continues to attract much attention, with a number of leading multinationals established in Singapore and the industry output exceeding \$316m a year. Medical equipment is also doing well, with many multinationals using Singapore as a regional base for servicing.

According to the EDB, priority industries for the 1980s include chemical process industries, metal engineering and machinery, heavy engineering, electrical and electronics industries. The main thrust of economic development in Singapore will continue to be towards higher productivity, extra value and greater technological innovation.

K.D.

Services key to the future

POLISH - BORN—Silmak, managing director of South-East Asia of Univas, is the Singaporean to have been appointed to the Computer Board, as the Government's September.

Now a U.S. citizen, Silmak has worked for Univas since 1954. He is a fully qualified systems analyst, a representative, and manager in localities from Europe to the Middle East. Since June this year he has been based in Singapore, transforming Sperry branch office, which was previously reported to have been moved to Singapore, into a fully operational branch office.

A fluent linguist (French, German, Russian, Polish, as well as English), Silmak worked on the computer reservation systems in airlines. His membership of the National Computer will give him direct access to the Singapore Government thinking on computer and enable him to participate in planning and co-ordination of future developments in Singapore.

Noting that Singapore to become a centre of computer, Silmak says: "No country in this part of the world, to the best of my knowledge, has said to be an exporting of expertise. We have here."

In view of his new role, Silmak is well placed to advise the Government precisely how to transform Singapore as a computer exporter, into a computer importer. Although reluctant to discuss his role in detail, Silmak's role towards service and should provide the future developments.

One possibility might be to develop software programs which can be used by a major hardware manufacturer, like Japan, in an export market. Silmak, "what a good computer is a computer is its a... you cannot put a computer in a... it's essential that the expertise is rooted in the user."

Like other companies, Silmak is looking towards more sophisticated technology, Sperry, under pressure to provide training for Singaporean staff.

Silmak acknowledges need for many more people to join the Singaporean's ambitious plans to be met. "The part of this (the government's) plan is educational," he says. "A lot of money is spent, not only on people, but on people to software and maintain it, but on vocational training or even on down to secondary education."

In this area, as in development of Singapore, Silmak's contribution is beneficial both to Government and to company.

K. D.

High hopes to be leading communications centre

PASSENGERS familiar with the smooth running of Singapore's international Paya Lebar airport in recent years might have been a little surprised to learn that it was already considered obsolete.

For those arriving from other Asian capitals the smooth transition through health checks, immigration and customs down one long continuous corridor was a pleasant relief after tortuous conditions prevailing elsewhere in the region. For the Singapore Government, however, with its ambitious plans to turn their small city state into an international communications centre, Paya Lebar was altogether too low key. The concept of the new Changi International airport was born in 1975 and, following a feasibility study, set in motion forthwith.

What Singapore planners had in mind was the accommodation of a vastly increased amount of passenger traffic in the 1980s and well beyond. If they are right, air traffic volume will increase dramatically over the next eight years. In 1978, Paya Lebar handled 5.7m passengers, 127,000 tonnes of air freight and mail and 62,663 commercial aircraft movements.

By 1989 Changi airport will be geared to handle 17m passengers, 793,000 tonnes of air freight and mail and 115,800 commercial aircraft movements. The new airport fits neatly into the Government's concept of Singapore as a regional centre for aviation, telecommunications, trading and finance. It has deliberately encouraged the emergence of the Republic as a vital centre for international air traffic by encouraging the liberal exchange of traffic rights with all countries willing to reciprocate. It spearheaded the fight by South-East Asian carriers against Australia's restrictive fares policy (Icap), now abandoned.

The gleaming new Changi airport, which opened for business in July, this year complements and adds to this image. So far one passenger terminal building and a 4,000-metre runway (to accommodate departing long-haul flights) have been completed. A second runway, slightly shorter at 3,355 metres, will be ready for use within the next two years. Changi will then be able to handle 70 flights an hour, although this may be increased when the authorities gain experience in the operation of a two-runway airport.



Changi International airport, which opened in July this year, plans to handle up to 17m passengers a year by 1989

The government has invested \$31.5bn on the airport's infrastructure. Singapore Airlines (SIA) has supplied the hangar (which, incidentally, has the world's longest clear span hangar roof) and a \$437m computer centre.

Singapore is particularly proud of Changi because, relying minimally on foreign expertise, it is very much a self-made airport. Singapore architects, engineers and building contractors constructed the airport itself. SIA has entrusted its aggressive computerisation plans to the government-backed International Development and Consultancy Corporation (Indeco), which is the project consultant for the computer centre as well as the planning agent for the remaining 12-hectare site still to be developed at Changi.

Joe Pillay, SIA chairman, says that computerisation in SIA began "long before it became fashionable to talk about the subject." SIA began its computerisation programme in 1965 with an IBM 1440 for general accounting. In 1972, two larger IBM computers were installed for passenger reservations.

Much of the land for the Changi development was reclaimed from the sea. A total of 870 acres—more than half the total land devoted to the new

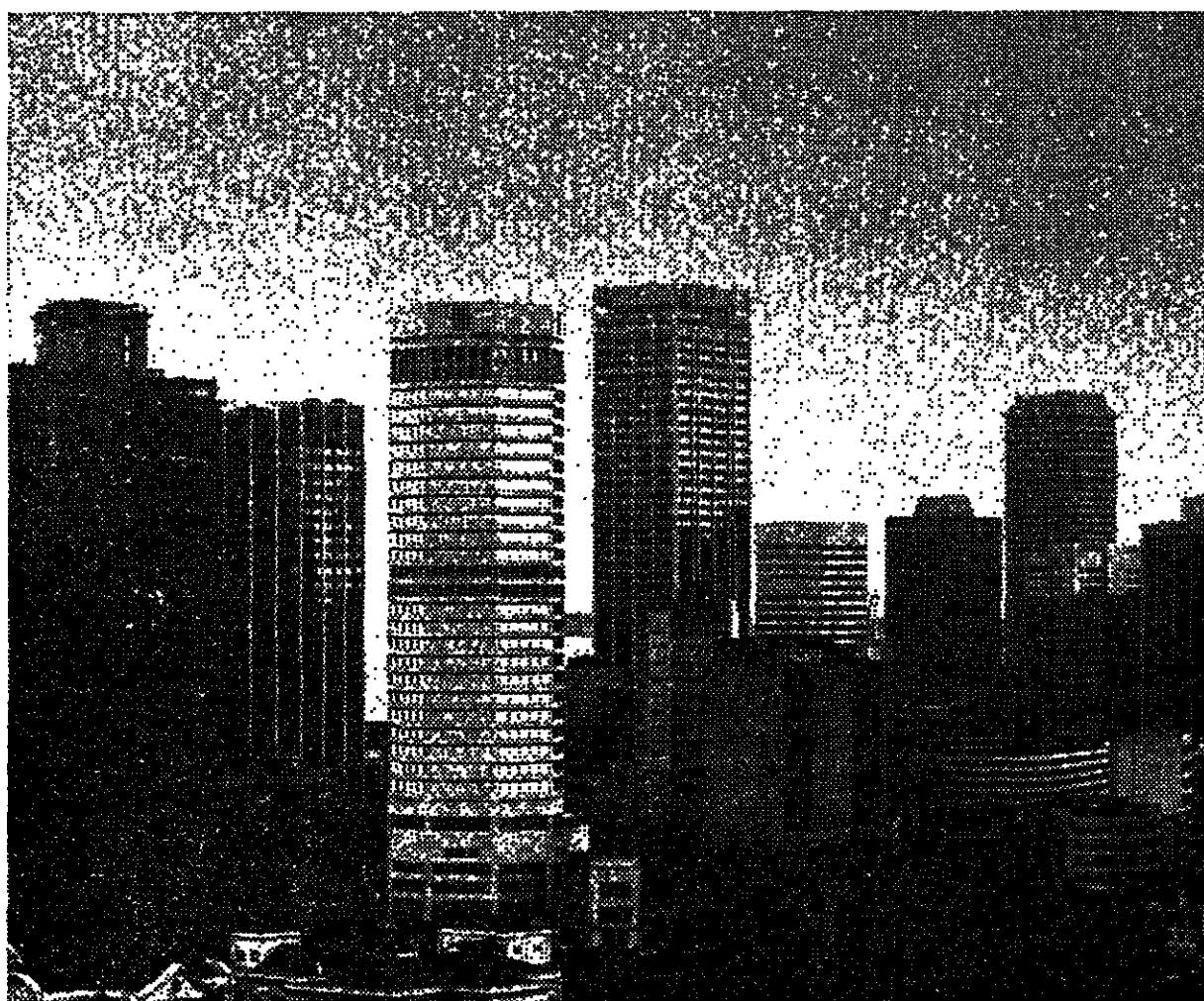
airport—was dredged from the seabed for reclamation. Part of the idea is to create a new seaport in the deep channel formed by dredging the 45m cubic metres of filling materials.

Singapore is already the third busiest seaport in the world, and its marine industries are booming. The siting of airport and seaport so close together—has important implications for cargo processing in the future.

Already Changi's two separate cargo terminals can handle half a million tonnes of cargo a year. Additional facilities could provide an extra 24m tonnes. The entire cargo complex is gazetted as a free trade zone. Goods can be transferred within the zone with minimal customs documentation and formalities.

Like other aspects of Singapore's economy, Changi is an outward manifestation of the world economy (in the long term) and its own place in it. With the expectation of nearly 17m passengers flowing through airport channels by 1989, in contrast with 3.5m this year, a substantial drop in tourism or another oil crisis could turn Changi into a major white elephant. Now, however, its glossy image personifies the image of economic sophistication Singapore wants to project.

K. D.



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SINGAPORE VII

Singapore Government's open door policy has tended to encourage foreign multinationals at the expense of the local entrepreneur. Kevin Rafferty reports

Using the local market to profitable advantage

THE SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT is at pains to point out that the indigenous Singaporean entrepreneur is not, as is often said, an endangered species. But the fact is that he is a comparative rarity in Singapore, partly because of local traditions and partly because the Government's policy towards foreign multinationals has tended to encourage local manufacturers.

In theory, at any rate, the Government remains committed to their success. The Product Development Assistance Scheme (PDAS) was set up to develop locally applied research and product development capacity and to build up indigenous technology. If a scheme is approved, the Government and the company concerned will jointly bear the cost. In 1980-81 four companies were given a total of \$229,400 for product development.

Singaporean

Applicants have to be a Singaporean company with a majority shareholding by Singapore citizens or permanent residents. The capital Assistance Scheme (CAS) and its offshoot, the Small Industries Finance Scheme (SIFS) are both designed to help local industrialists, or as the EDB puts it, "to provide financial assistance to companies with specialised

projects of unique economic and technological benefit to Singapore." The budget for CAS for fiscal year 1980-81 is \$8150m SIFS, essentially set up to encourage indigenous supporting industries for big multinationals, lends money to local companies to modernise their plants and move into more sophisticated areas.

The fact remains that local manufacturers are at a disadvantage in terms of size, technological know-how and expertise, not to mention marketing networks available to multinationals. However, the Government argues that the presence of multinationals in Singapore itself provides a huge local market for intermediate products and supporting services. For example, the electronics industry has to import about half its requirements in terms of supporting services and parts from abroad. Local entrepreneurs, are being invited to plug the gap.

Prime Minister, Lee Kuan Yew, put his finger on a genuine problem in his National Day address in August when he told Singaporeans: "If we had to depend on Singaporean entrepreneurs, we would not have today's Singapore. It's damning admission for me as Prime Minister to have to tell you this. We may have been traders, but we do not understand management. Our managers do not understand productivity."

On the other hand some foreign economists worry about Singapore's dependence on foreign investment and expertise. Noting an increasing reliance on foreign capital by Singaporeans, one said that Singapore would experience grave problems if foreign investment ever falls off. However, Ministers note with some satisfaction that investment by local companies and entrepreneurs is, in fact, on the increase.

PROFILE: JOHNNY MOO

Chasing the multinationals

PUTERS is one of the line areas of technology in Singapore is anxious to keep. The world field is being chased by the Americans on their heels. So it is a local Singaporean entrepreneur operating and winning. Yet a Singaporean operator, Computers ms Advisor Group (CSA) gone so far down the national road as to make a record this year of an Asian computer.

It is not fair to describe the purchase of 60 per cent of Asia Computer Services International as the group's first multi-step. It has already been operating with success in China, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Thailand, and Australia. It is, in fact, an ambitious sign of the next step. The next step, according to Johnny Moo, managing director, will be to establish a foothold in the South-East Asia, and up a venture in the U.S. Mr Moo says he first got involved with computers in Australia. He came from civil engineering, Melbourne University. It was "too much like work. I chose electronics. It is closest to maths. It is something where you have to do any work. It always work from principles."

30 and knew that if I did not get out to do my own business then I would never move." In the early days the work was computer consultancy and project management. CSA was given a good start by working on the Indonesian population census using United Nations funds. After a couple of years the decision was taken to move into software business. Johnny Moo considered this to have more of a future than pure consultancy, "not least because doing the Indonesian project I was spending only three days a month at home," he says self-deprecatingly. He saw a boom in mini computers in which CSA has specialised.

Dr Tony Tan, then with the Oversea Chinese Banking Corporation (and now Minister of Trade and Industry) was interested in the company, persuaded the bank to take 60 per cent of it and thus provide funds for the lift-off for the next stage of the operations. The next largest shareholder is Johnny Moo with 25 per cent. The company is registered in Hong Kong though 90 per cent of its capital as well as its operating headquarters and a majority of its staff are located in Singapore.

One of the biggest successes was winning the project for computerising the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club telephone betting system. The turf and petroleum have been two of CSA's most successful areas. Other areas on which the company has concentrated are banking and finance, insurance and education, as well as government services.

According to Tony Moo, Johnny's brother, and company finance and planning manager: "We concentrate on what we know best and we will not take on a project in an area we are uncertain of." Among its distinguished international clients are Pertamina, the Indonesian oil company, Brunel Shell Petroleum, Garuda and Malaysian Airlines system, Hong Kong finance and the Chinese Government.

The breakthrough to China came in early 1980 when CSA won the project to install four Digital Equipment PDP



Johnny Moo, managing director of Computers ms Advisor (CSA)

11 computer systems. It also delivered and installed the first PDP 11 40 data entry system in Peking which is destined to be used for data entry to a main frame which the United Nations development programme is providing for multiple users in the Chinese capital. CSA has followed up these successes with delivery of about a dozen PDP 11 systems to various provinces. The group is to install, train and support these systems located in Fujian, Anhui, Jiangsu, Guangzhou, Shanghai and Sichuan.

CSA now provides both hardware and software systems in data communication, database, and on-line real-time systems. The company says its "philosophy is to provide complete systems solutions in the higher end of the technology spectrum." Each territory where CSA operates, except Indonesia, has two companies as part of the territory where CSA operates, Computer Systems Advisers, which provides software expertise and support and a hardware company, usually called Automated Systems, which markets a wide range of computers and related equipment and provides systems support and engineering maintenance.

The idea of taking 60 per cent of the Australian company was not only to broaden the regional base but to extend the group's expertise. CSA's experience has been heavily in mini computers whereas the Australian company has specialised in main frame capabilities. Johnny Moo said that the expansion "makes us even better equipped to bid for large international turnkey contracts which demand not only expertise in mini computer but also in main frame."

In its first decade CSA has enjoyed a steady 25 to 30 per cent a year growth, which the Moo brothers see its growing even faster in the 1980s as more and more computers start being used in the rapidly growing Asian and Pacific countries. The group's annual turnover is about \$820m and it employs more than 200 people in all.

One of the difficulties is keeping up with the demand, being limited by shortages of systems analysts and programmers. An official survey found that Singapore had about 850 computer programmers and systems analysts in 1980 against a need, estimated by Johnny Moo, of 1,200 to 1,300. Singapore has ambitious plans that it will need 5,800 to 7,300 computer personnel by 1990. To help bridge the gap CSA has made a deal with the Singapore Skills Development Fund to take at least 20 people a year on its in-house training centre scheme.

CSA sees its future as set on a worldwide rather than just a Singapore / Asian course. Next year, the group will develop a full-scale hardware integration plan which the Moos say can only be justified if the company has a global network—hence the need for an American link after the Australian one.

All of this makes a nonsense of Johnny Moo's claim to be in computers as the easy way out of anything. His brother was rather more accurate when he said that the company's success had depended on "forefront, luck and a hell of a lot of hard work." K.R.

PROFILE: JEFFREY GOH

Success without state aid

JEFF GOH started his Central Industrial Suppliers in 1963 with \$54,000 and "although it wasn't big, we managed to make some profit." In 1974, Central Industrial was a private limited company with a paid-up capital of \$250,000 (US\$ 0), poised to take advantage of the boom in the construction business as Singapore's emergence as a world financial centre. The company's equipment for both onshore and offshore rigs, and construction sites. It distributes and oil-related equipment from all over the world. In 1977 and 1980 it only met his targeted, but bettered performance in both profit and turnover an average of 12 per cent. Jeffrey Goh says that, of the company's impressive performance, a lot of multinationals have an eye on him. Until this year, Jeffrey's shareholding in

Central Industrial Suppliers—a move that Goh, who retains 25 per cent of the company and remains very firmly at the helm of it as managing director—saw as both sound and logical. "It's good for the company in the sense that we now have tremendous financial resources with which we can multiply our purchasing and selling power."

In 1981, the company bettered its projections by 25 per cent, "because of the international connections and back-up we had from the Thomas Tilling Group."

Goh has now come up with what he describes as an aggressive and formidable forecast for the company's activities in 1982: a turnover of \$337.3m, 80 per cent up on this year's figure. Goh says: "Because of the company's and my personal goodwill and my entrepreneurship, I think we ought to be able to achieve this forecast—we are very confident." While the oil-related industries in South-East Asia continue to prosper—and Goh thinks the up-

ward spiral will continue "for the next five or six years," Central Industrial Suppliers is poised to ride the crest of the wave.

Goh does not resent never having received any government assistance for his company, although it would be eligible for a grant from the Skills Development Fund for upgrading the skills of his 65-strong workforce. Indeed, he says that it would be against his principles to receive any form of state aid. He is equally unconcerned by his lack of further education in Singapore's highly degree-conscious society. The fifth of nine children, Goh had four years in secondary school, before leaving to sell radio and television sets. His father, a general clerk, never earned more than \$8600 (US\$300) a month in his entire working life.

Goh believes that, in future, there will be fewer local entrepreneurs like himself because, paradoxically, young Singaporeans with good educational qualifications want professional jobs with regular hours.

Would-be entrepreneurs will find it increasingly hard to get started in the competitive 1980s, given the Singapore government's dedicated open-door policy towards multinational companies, notes Goh. He also points to the tremendous change in the Singaporean lifestyle over the past 14 or 15 years, with comparative affluence "making him lazier."

Goh's present plans include the creation of a new office in the city state's Shenton Way business district for the company's marketing and export divisions. Central Industrial Suppliers is expanding its activities in Indonesia and consolidating business in Malaysia, Hong Kong and the People's Republic of China.

Married, with three sons, Goh considers that he has a happy life. "I really enjoy my work. I have a big house, a swimming pool and two servants. I enjoy the material rewards (of success) and I never complain about the work involved." K.D.

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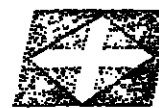
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Static half year for Geers Gross

TAXABLE PROFITS of Geers Gross, advertising agent and consultant, declined marginally from £392,927 to £342,615 for the first half of 1981 despite a rise in turnover to £22.26m, compared with £19.64m.

Tax was lower at £171,000 (£183,000) and although stated earnings per share slipped from 3.36p to 2.86p the net interim dividend is being lifted by 0.5p to 2.0p per 10p share—last year's final was 2.5p.

Commenting on the results the directors say that in common with most clients trading so far has been difficult. Budgets have been maintained, as forecast, but there has been pressure on profit margins, they point out.

However, with all debt eliminated after the successful rights issue and major new businesses soon to come on stream both in London and New York the directors believe the group is poised for further profit growth in 1982.

Geers Gross shares have shed a third of their value since the summer but at 102p, down 7p yesterday, the fully taxed p/e is still about 14. This is a pretty fancy rating considering yesterday's very flat interim figures and the indication in the statement that there will not be much, if any, growth in the second half. The group's UK performance suffered mainly from the effect of the resignation of the Typo-Tek account and the inevitable delay until profits from several important new UK and U.S. accounts begin to flow. But the 13 per cent rise in turnover suggests more severe margins squeeze in the UK than was anticipated at the time of last May's rights issue. The one bright note in the interim dividend should probably be interpreted as an adjustment to keep the two payments equal, so the yield is under 6 per cent.

ALEXANDER HOWDEN
Do Zoete and Egan, on behalf of Alexander and Alexander Services, have bought 25,000 ordinary shares at 14½p each in Alexander Howden Group. As a result, Alexander and Alexander now holds 5.5m ordinary shares (6.03 per cent).

SPAIN	Price	+ or -
November 13		
Banco Bilbao	336	+6
Banco Central	325	+14
Banco Exterior	320	+5
Banco Hispano	330	+10
Banco Ine Gal	117	
Banco Santander	383	+1
Banco Urquijo	217	+3
Banco Vizcaya	368	+10
Banco Zaragoza	220	
Buenavista	161	+8
Caixa de Pensions	89	
Caixa de Pensiones	72	+1
Caixa de Pensiones	36	+2
Caixa de Pensiones	83	+2
Caixa de Pensiones	35	+1.3
Caixa de Pensiones	102.5	+3.3
Caixa de Pensiones	82	
Caixa de Pensiones	47	
Caixa de Pensiones	77.5	+1.5
Caixa de Pensiones	78.2	+1.5

Royal Ins. slightly lower at nine months

AN UNDERWRITING loss up £39.2m to £64.5m, left pre-tax profits of Royal Insurance Company marginally lower at £91m against £91.9m for the nine months to September 30 1981.

Investment income growth was 33 per cent in sterling terms and the underlying increase was 17 per cent, representing an increase of £35.5m to £145m.

The effect of changes in exchange rates was to depress the profit before tax by £13m.

In the U.S., where premiums grew by 14 per cent (1.25 per cent), there was an underwriting loss of £39.2m (£18.6m). The worsening of the result was largely accounted for by the commercial property business. The operating ratio was 105.1 per cent compared with 103.5

per cent at the same stage last year.

There was an increase in UK underwriting profit from £8.5m to £14.1m, helped by generally favourable weather and a reduction in the number of fire losses. Results improved in most classes of business but those in liability, marine and aviation worsened. Premium growth remained satisfactory at 16 per cent.

In both Canada and Australia the underwriting result deteriorated sharply reflecting the very difficult market conditions here. There was an increased underwriting loss of £32.2m (£11.3m) in Canada and in Australia the underwriting deficit increased to £14.6m (£6.4m 1980). In Canada, where the premium growth of 10 per cent was more than accounted

for by rating increases, further pricing action will be implemented early in 1982.

Additional rating action is also being taken in Australia where the deterioration in the result has been exacerbated by the need for provisions for additional liabilities which will arise as a result of a recent court case affecting the calculation of lump sum awards in personal injury liability cases.

The Netherlands saw a rise in underwriting profit from £2.9m to £4.3m.

Underwriting experience was mixed in other overseas areas, the directors report, with some improvement in local operations, but with a worsening of the results on overseas business written in the UK. Profits for the life operations increased to £8.6m.

Commenting on the results, John Howard, chief general manager, says there is no respite yet from the exceptionally difficult underwriting conditions in most of the territories in which Royal operates.

Where premium rates are unacceptably low, as they still are for many classes in Canada and Australia despite recent increases, the company will implement further rate rises to secure an improvement in results.

While the severe action it is taking in these territories inevitably leads to some loss of business, the company's overall growth worldwide of 12 per cent, after allowing for the distorting effect of currency changes, is in line with the declared emphasis on controlled

expansion. The company has been able to obtain some real growth on an acceptable basis in the U.S. and UK, which together account for two-thirds of its business.

None 'Nine months' 1981 1980 1980 'Nine months' 1981 1980 1980

Premiums written	1,168.2	944.3	1,241.7
Underwriting loss	64.5	25.3	40.3
Invest. inc.	142.0	105.5	148.3
Trading result	77.5	81.2	108.0
Long-term inc.	6.6	6.6	10.0
Share assoc.	4.9	4.1	8.2
Profit before tax	31.0	91.9	122.2
Tax	38.0	38.2	60.4
Min. profits	0.4	0.6	0.9
Anticipatable	51.6	53.1	70.9

* The effect of changes in exchange rates in the comparison of the nine months results was to depress the profit before tax by £13m, the underwriting result was adversely affected by £7.6m and the investment income benefited by £6.5m.

See Lex

Ferguson Indl. climbs sharply to £1.6m midw

THE BENEFITS of which reduced borrowing by Ferguson Industrial Holdings showed through in more than doubled pre-tax profits of £1.63m for the six months to August 31 1981.

Although trading continued to be difficult, second-quarter taxable figures rose from £364,000 to £947,000.

Half-year taxable profits were struck after a much lower interest charge of £172,000 (£779,000) and the employees' profit share of £188,000 (£140,000). Associates' contributions were £80,000 (nil).

Tax charge rose from £123,000 to £488,000, giving an attributable surplus of £1.14m, compared with £653,000. Stated earnings per 25p share increased by 0.8p to 3.4p, while the interim dividend is maintained at 2.2p, not the final last time was 3.3p.

The group's printing and packaging operations continued the improvement seen in the first quarter. The contribution to sales and profits from "Penny Plastic Products of Huddersfield" acquired in September will appear in the current quarter.

Building supplies continued to improve its performance in a depressed competitive market and has entered its traditionally busy quarter with satisfactory results for September.

Engineering supplies, engineering and software divisions are still encountering difficult trading conditions and an upturn is not expected until there is a general upturn in the economy. GHI has produced satisfactory results. The company continues

to exclude results of Shiprepairs from its figures, but this should not affect its satisfactory year.

comment

Ferguson's interim figures all the expected benefit last February's acquisition Gostorb. The income per share is a great deal more reliable than Gostorb's civil engineering subsidiary Brims, but its trading profit to show £12m of turnover. Other remains a case of firing well on a single printing and packaging string, of specialised firms has achieved a rise sales than last year, a fairly better margin, making one of Ferguson's successful lines of division. Two-fifths of group still generated by distrib building materials, but a throughput has been maintained at about the 1980 level, have slipped by about 10 per cent should be held the shares at or above present 74p. As history could just about do present trends, there is scope for some advance.

See Lex

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BRITANNIA

Arrow passes resolutions

At an extraordinary general meeting of Britannia Arrow Holdings, the special resolution to effect the proposed cancellation of the share premium account, subject to an extraordinary resolution of the warrant holders, was duly passed.

Following the EGM, a meeting of holders of warrants to subscribe for ordinary shares was held and an extraordinary resolution to implement the said proposals was passed. Votes for amounted to 1,202,142 (87.43 per cent) with 172,763 (12.57 per cent) against.

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'Same again' forecast by Guildhall

Results of Guildhall Property Company for the year ending June 1982 will be similar to those for the year ending June 1981, says Mr Leslie Smith, the chairman, in his annual statement. He says the board expects to maintain dividends on ordinary shares at not less than the present level—for the year to June 1981, a final of 4.4p is proposed for a total of 5.13p.

Mr Smith says there are now four properties, with a total area of 65,000 sq ft, vacant, but negotiations have been concluded to grant a new lease in respect of the largest of these, subject to contract and to obtaining planning permission for change of use. Arrangements have been made to redevelop one of the group's sites with five "nursery units" which, despite the recession, still seem to find willing tenants.

As known, pre-tax profits for the year to June 30 1981 increased from £900,831 to £1,020m.

Meeting, 100 Old Broad Street, EC, December 10, at noon.

Dealings halted as Cambrian reconstructs

Shares in Cambrian and General Securities, an investment trust, were suspended yesterday at 12.5p pending a reconstruction.

Cambrian's board has been approached by an unnamed third party with proposals, now common in the industry, for a reconstruction of the shares into both ordinary and capital shares, an increase in capital, a rights issue and a change to the articles of association, to give shareholders a chance to wind up the company in a limited period.

The proposals, designed to unlock the investment trust's assets, allow existing shareholders to stay in, or to accept net asset value for the shares just ahead of the reorganisation.

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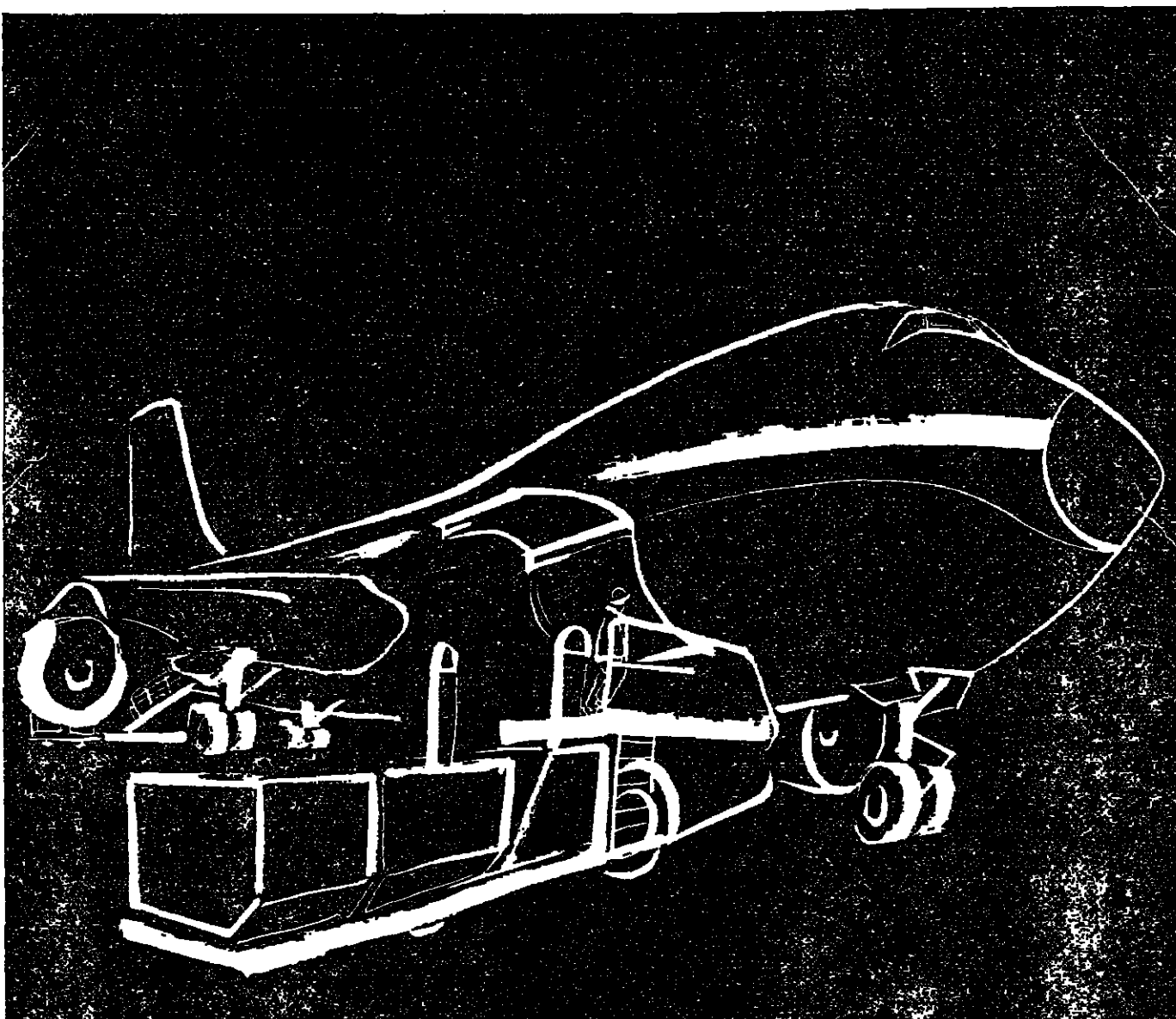
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TRADE FINANCE

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BIDS AND DEALS

Prudential and Phoenix link up in Australia

Prudential Assurance and Phoenix Assurance are merging their Australian non-life businesses in an attempt to stem the heavy losses on this form of business in Australia.

The two groups will now be equal partners in Phoenix Prudential Australia.

The move comes only two years after Prudential merged its Australian interests with

those of Cornhill Insurance to form Prudential Cornhill with Prudential holding two-thirds and Cornhill one third.

Prudential's report and accounts for 1980 reveal that Prudential Cornhill had underwriting losses of £2.2m. The report said that "although it is expected that ultimately the merger will lead to a reduction in the expense ratio and a corresponding improvement in the

business, there has been no respite from the fierce competition in the market."

Phoenix reported a similar picture on its non-life business in Australia. In 1980 this made "a substantial loss." At the end of June the Australian business was said to have deteriorated further.

The merger is subject to approval by the Australian authorities.

Talks 'may lead to an offer' for loss-maker W. Williams & Sons

A TAKEOVER bid could be in the offing for W. Williams & Sons (Holdings), a loss making die-casting and foundry group based in Caerphilly.

The company—in which the Welsh Development Agency has a 28.25 per cent holding—announced yesterday that the board was "in talks that may lead to an offer" for the company.

Before the announcement the company called dealings in the company's shares to a halt. At the 11p suspension price the issued 3.4m ordinary shares were

valued at £374,000. Last month the company reported a pre-tax loss for the first half of 1981 up from £181,251 to £314,528, which included a surplus of £156,785 on the sale of shares. For the whole of 1980 the group loss was £754,973.

Mr W. E. Williams, the chairman, said in the interim statement that since July there had been no positive movement in trade levels and he could not see any rapid turnaround in the group's trading pattern this year.

The chairman said that as a consequence more redundancies had been implemented and further measures to rationalise the group's production facilities were being urgently considered.

The directors, including family interests, hold about 25 per cent of the company's shares. Other shareholders, apart from the WDA, are: Cliff Hotel (Swbert) 9.84 per cent; Mr T. L. Lowe, a director of Cliff Hotel, 1.16 per cent; and trustees of the late W. Williams, 4.47 per cent. The company has close status.

Hiltons' board recommends offer

George Oliver (Footwear) has posted its recommended cash offer of 160p per share to shareholders of its fellow Leicester-based retailer, Hiltons Footwear.

The offer is recommended as being in "the long-term interests of employees as a whole" by Hiltons' board. Referring to the net assets per share value of 270p—which Hiltons pointed out on October 14 in opposing a 145p per share

offer from Ward White—the chairman says that the figure "does not take into account any potential liability to capital gains tax which might arise if the properties were sold at the valuation figure."

Oliver's indebtedness at October 31 amounted to £1.26m, compared with issued share capital of £1.48m. The net tangible assets attributable to Oliver shareholders last

December 31 were stated at £6.58m. This figure rises to £8.74m in the pro forma statement of Oliver's assets position after the acquisition.

Mardon buys plastic sheet maker

Mardon Packaging International has acquired from Smith and Nephew Associated Companies, Iridon, and its subsidiary Drexco.

Iridon, whose main activity is plastic sheet extrusion, will continue to operate as a separate entity within the plastics division of Mardon Packaging.

Mardon Packaging, a wholly owned subsidiary of BAX Industries, converts, prints and decorates paper, board, plastic, film and metals for packaging and related products in the United Kingdom and overseas.

SHARE STAKES

Imperial Foods—Mr N. W. Young, director, disposed of his entire interest of 54,232 ordinary shares.

Huntley & Palmer expand in Singapore

On November 13 Huntley & Palmer Foods acquired Enterprises, Incorporated, Singapore.

Kaon has for some time produced brands of Huntley & Palmer biscuits in Singapore.

Overall costs of this acquisition is \$810.6m (£2.65m) has been satisfied by 3.78m ordinary shares.

Such shares will be issued on a pro rata basis, including rig dividends declared or the future.

The vendors have their present intention to the shares allotted to the recent independent profit valuation resulted in a v. of assets materially the purchase consideration. Profits before tax of business acquired amount approximately \$850,000 year to March 31 1988.

Further to the acquisition vendors or their nominee agreed to subscribe on for 3m shares at par in a cash consideration of \$750,000.

Talbex acquires Oliver Eng.

Talbex Group has acquired Preston-based Oliver Engineering (Leyland) and its which Oliver was renting land, near Preston, LA.

The purchase price of £136,172, payable in an amount of £5,000 has for Oliver shares, but it proportion at £191,172 in factory, arranged w group's bankers, and for six months.

The four-year-old face an area of approximately sq ft.

COPE ALLMAN NORTHERN EXP

Cope Allman International completed the sale of 1 owned subsidiary.

Export (Furs) for 1978 The purchasers have all to provide Northern E funds totalling some £3 repayment of in borrowing.

For the year to June Northern Export pre-4 were £91,173 and net that date were £291,888. The consideration will be deployed w group in the develop growth businesses. C man's interests are engineering, packaging and fashion industries.

Cedar Investment trims its UK portfolio to 66%

During 1980-81, Cedar Investment Trust pursued a policy of greater diversification between countries and currencies in order to balance the risks of investing in such a volatile area as the UK.

During the past two years it has sold UK investments on a net basis worth over £2m at the time of sale and re-invested the proceeds overseas.

At September 30 1981 66.2 per cent of the company's assets were invested in the UK compared with 77.4 per cent two years ago.

The directors say it has been the board's policy to provide a level of income which is as high as possible, and yet which will provide for a growth in dividends at or above the prevailing rate of inflation.

As known, total revenue for the year to September 30 was £2.84m (£2.62m)—the comparable figure includes special non-recurring dividends of £209,550. Investments totalled £26.7m (£27.71m) were listed at market value in Britain. Total assets at the year end were £40.54m (£40.05m).

London and Manchester Assurance Company, with 3,273,625 shares, has a 9.92 per cent interest in Cedar. The Prudential Assurance Company has 5.59 per cent, Pearl Assurance Company 6.42 per cent, and the Trustees Corporation has 5.12 per cent.

Meeting, Mermald House, 2 Puddle Dock, EC, December 8, at noon.

RESULTS AND ACCOUNTS IN BRIEF

R. GREEN PROPERTIES (property investor and estate developer)—Results for year to June 30 1981 reported October 13. Chairman states year has started well with improved figures for first three months and bank overdraft significantly reduced. Fixed assets £5.13m (£4.57m); short and medium term borrowings (secured) £2.12m (£1.2m); net current assets £1.05m (£252,000); increase in working capital £511,000 (£532,000). Shareholders' funds £4.32m (£3.3m). Valuation of investment properties shows a surplus of £3.3m over book values.

Meeting, Brighton, December 7, 5.30 pm.

WHITTINGTON ENGINEERING COMPANY (colliery and materials handling equipment manufacturer)—For half-year to September 30 1981: interim dividend 1.2p (same) net profit 25p; shareable profits £12,118 (£12,312); turnover £228,444 (£208,235); tax £8,301 (£12,542).

WELCO HOLDINGS (distributor of electrical components; maker of heating elements)—Results for year to June 30 1981 reported October 20. Group fixed assets £288,782 (£378,900). Net current assets £2.85m (£2.24m). Shareholders' funds £2.85m (£2.54m). Meeting, The Goring Hotel, SW,

December 16, 11 am.

MARTONAIR (manufacturer pneumatic control equipment)—Results for year to July 31 1981 reported November 4. Shareholders' funds £20.95m (£20.62m). Net current assets £16.07m (£15.61m). Decrease in working capital £130,000 (£2,066 increase). Meeting: The Conquest Rooms, WC, December 9, noon.

JAMES HALSTEAD (HOLDINGS)—(floorcovering, waterproof clothing, leisure)—Results for year June 30 1981 reported October 7. Shareholders' funds £4.83m (£4.13m); fixed assets £2.5m (£3.22m); net current assets £2.57m (£1,680m); decrease in bank borrowing less cash balances £282,545 (£720,823 increase). Meeting, Manchester, December 4, noon.

WALKER AND STAFF HOLDINGS—Turnover half year to September 30 1981 £1.53m (£1.51m). Pre-tax profit £22,000 (£10,000). After interest £4,000 (same). Tax £9,000 (£4,000). Earnings per 5p share 0.59p (0.25p). Directors say the company is in a sound position to take advantage of any upturn in demand. They anticipate that dividend for year will at least be maintained at last year's 1.35p net.

BOARD MEETINGS

The following companies have notified dates of board meetings to the Stock Exchange. Such meetings are usually held for the purpose of considering dividends. Official indications are not available as to whether dividends are interim or final and the subdivisions shown below are based mainly on last year's timetable.

TODAY: G.E.I. International, H.A.T., L.C.P., Somic, Tesco Stores, Unilever, Underwood N.V., J. W. Wessell, Whitbread Investment, Young and Co's Brewery.

FUTURE DATES: Interim: Andros Sirahelids Nov 25; Barker and Dodson Nov 24; Blum (J.) Nov 20; Bremer Trust Nov 18; Buckley's Brewery Nov 28; Elswick Hopper Nov 22; Rediffusion Nov 27.

Final: Audio Fidelity Nov 19; Burton Nov 25; Comet Radios Nov 25; Hanson Hoffman Polars Dec 10; Stockists Nov 19.

This Advertisement complies with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland.

U.S. \$100,000,000

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(Incorporated under the laws of Canada)

16 per cent. Notes due 1st December, 1989

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The 100,000 Notes of U.S. \$1,000 each constituting the above issue have been admitted to the Official List of The Stock Exchange in London subject only to the issue of the temporary global Note. Particulars of the Notes are available from Exel Statistical Services Limited and may be obtained during normal business hours on any weekday (Saturdays and public holidays excepted) up to and including 1st December, 1981 from:

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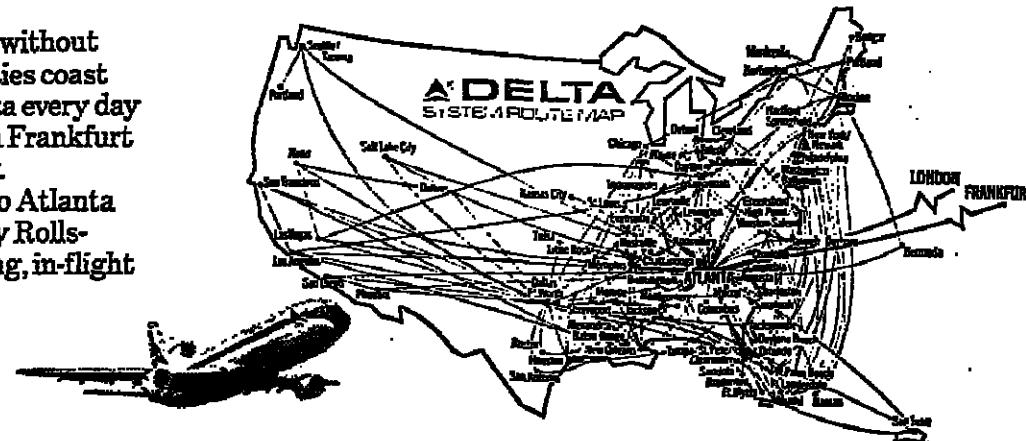
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November 1981

EUROBONDS

The Association of International Bond Dealers Quotations and Yields appears monthly in the Financial Times. It will be published on the following dates:

1981
Tuesday 15th December
1982
Tuesday 12th January Tuesday 16th February Tuesday 16th March
Thursday 15th April Wednesday 12th May Wednesday 16th June
Tuesday 13th July Monday 16th August Tuesday 14th September
Wednesday 13th October Tuesday 14th December
Thursday 11th November

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Companies and Markets

UK COMPANY NEWS

MINING NEWS

Profit setback
for Placer

BY GEORGE MILLING-STANLEY

A FALL of more than half in net earnings for the first nine months of the year is reported by Canada's Placer Development. Net earnings were C\$31.13m (£12.8m) or 37 cents a share, compared with C\$66.39m or C\$1.87 a share for the corresponding period of 1980.

Mr C. Allen Born, president, said the lower earnings were attributable to continued depressed metal prices, reduced sales of molybdenum and higher expenses. Placer has suffered from high interest charges on funds borrowed for new projects.

He pointed out that the average price received for molybdenum ore from the Endako mine in British Columbia declined by 16 per cent against the previous year, and has fallen even further since the end of the period to

US\$7 per pound. Copper averaged a price about one-fifth lower than last year.

Mr Born said that molybdenum operations were still profitable although weak demand had resulted in a build-up of stocks. All of Placer's copper concentrate is being sold, but the current price is only at the break-even level. Markets are not expected to strengthen until there is an improvement in world economic conditions.

Looking further ahead, Placer can expect a contribution to profits from the Golden Sunlight gold property in the U.S. near Butte, Montana. Development work at a cost of US\$8m (£46m) is scheduled to start in April next year, with gold production of some 72,000 ounces beginning in mid-1983.

Ayer Hitam outlook

PROVIDING THE price of tin is maintained Malaysia's Ayer Hitam Tin Dredging should be better placed in the current year to next June than in the previous 12 months when pre-tax profits dropped to M\$5.55m (£1.29m) from M\$18.57m in the previous 12 months.

In his annual statement the chairman points out that production—which fell 29 per cent in the past year—should be at least maintained in the current year while indications are that the tin dredging operations will be in higher grade ground.

The fall in tin concentrate production in 1980-81 reflected the working of lower grade reserves coupled with the presence of stiff clay which causes problems for dredgers.

Profits were also hit by higher costs, notably in a 50 per cent rise in power charges and, to a lesser extent, by increased wages following a new collective agreement reached with the unions.

Ayer Hitam has submitted applications for the renewal of leases over 1,111 acres of ground which are due to expire in 1983. The company's total holdings amount to 1,463 acres.

Cominco
reduces
dividend

HARD ON THE heels of the Anglo America Corporation group's Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting, another leading Canadian natural resources group has announced a cut in the dividend for the third quarter. The company is Cominco, the 54 per cent-owned metals and chemicals arm of the Canadian Pacific group.

In the wake of last week's announcement from Hudbay that it was halving its regular quarterly payment to 15 cents (6.7p) a share, Cominco said yesterday that it was cutting its dividend to 80 cents (35p) from C\$1.10 because of "a major fall-off" in earnings for the first nine months of the year.

Mr Robert R. Stone, vice-president finance of Cominco, explained that it was inappropriate to maintain the C\$1.10 dividend in view of the lower level of earnings.

Net profits for the period fell by 57 per cent to C\$53.6m, or C\$2.60 a share.

Cominco is the world's

biggest mine producer of lead and when the Polar mine in the Canadian Arctic comes on stream next year, the group will also rank first in zinc production. In addition, it is rapidly gaining an important position in copper.

Mr Stone said that metal prices, especially for lead and silver, and lower volume sales of gold and silver combined to reduce earnings. A six-week strike in the second quarter and higher interest costs also contributed.

Land Securities
rises to £31.7m
at six months

TOTAL INCOME of the property development and investment concern, Land Securities Investment Trust, climbed from £28.9m to £31.7m for the half-year to September 30 1981 while the pre-tax figure moved ahead from £24.8m to £31.7m.

After tax of £18.48m (£12.8m) the net available income showed an increase from £11.83m to £16.22m. Stated earnings per share were 4.45p (3.72p) and the interim dividend, on capital increased by this year's scrip issue, is 2.75p net (2.5p on old capital). The board's already stated view is that the interim dividend should form a larger proportion of the year's dividend.

Rental income for the period advanced from £38.53m to £45.42m. Service charges and other recoveries totalled £5.68m (£5.42m) while income from short-term funds was split as £3.55m (£3.13m) from Government stocks and £519,000 (£1.82m) from deposits. Ground rents payable accounted for £2.95m (£3.9m) and other property outgoings, £7.37m (£8.6m). Administration charges increased from £2.77m to £3.47m, but interest payable dropped from £10.96m to £10.69m.

Interest on convertible loan stocks totalled £1.05m (£1.18m) and on long-term and short-term borrowings the charges were £3m (£2.25m) and £500,000 (£551,000) respectively.

The company points out the Government stocks with the proceeds of the issue in June 1980 were approximately one half the six months to September 1980.

A statement of a accounting policy for its properties is set out in the annual report in respect of the company's accounting year March 31 1982.

The company says it the provisions of this statement are expected to become mandatory per commission a full value Knight Frank and Rut March 31 1982.

comment

Taking the one for it into account, the rise in "Securities" interim dividend from 21p to 21p represents an increase of 37.1 per cent. ever, as the company's income is up £6.9m with the new expectations outlined in the annual report. The share have had a good run in month or so, fell 10p to 321p, to produce a per cent yield of 3.7 per cent.

Jentique starts offshoot
for marketing in U.S.

A marketing subsidiary is being set up in the U.S. by Jentique (Holdings) to promote the group's clock division. Mr. Cooper, chairman and managing director, says: "I am confident that new business will accrue during the coming months." He is certain that the clock division is set for a further satisfactory trading period.

Modernised production facilities produced a 15 per cent rise in turnover for the Metamex clock division, although the recession brought trading losses at the Jentique furniture division.

First half group losses of £218,450 were eliminated and pre-tax profits finished at £8,000 compared with £235,500 for the year to June 30 1981 — as reported October 9.

Sales in the furniture division

are depressed, adds Mr. Cooper, but he anticipates that show a modest improvement before the end of the year. "The best reorganisation becomes the rise in Metamex over vindicates the identification of the potential of quartz watches. The advanced technology plant now in operation produce a substantial net profit.

The recession in the industry intensified a downturn throughout the and incurred in the division were reduced first half of the year to according to Mr. Cooper. The company's change is name to Jentique.

COMPANY NOTICES

AYER HITAM TIN DREDGING MALAYSIA BERHAD

NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 8th annual general meeting of Ayer Hitam Tin Dredging Malaysia Berhad will be held at the registered office of the company, Wisma Bursa Ray, 152, Jalan Ampang, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on Thursday, 10th December 1981 at 10.00 a.m. for the following purposes:

- To consider and, if thought fit, pass the following as ordinary resolutions: That the profit and loss account for the year ended 30th June 1981 and the balance sheet of the company at that date together with the statement of source and application of funds and the audited reports of the directors and auditors be and are hereby received and adopted and the final dividend of 75 sen per share, less tax at 40%, recommended therein be and is hereby approved and declared payable on 15th December 1981 to the members of the company registered as the close of business on 30th November 1981.
- That Enck Abdul Rahim Akl, who retires by rotation, be and is hereby re-elected a director of the company.
- That Mr. Lee Siew Cheong, who retires by rotation, be and is hereby re-elected a director of the company.
- That Mr. A. J. W. Owsen, who retires by rotation, be and is hereby re-elected a director of the company.
- That the directors' fees for the year ended 30th June 1981 amounting to \$102,700 be and are hereby approved.
- That Messrs. Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co., who are eligible and have given their consent for re-appointment, be and are hereby re-appointed the company's auditors for the period until the conclusion of the next annual general meeting and that the remuneration to be paid to them be fixed by the board.

By Order of the Board
ABDUL MALEK ABDUL MAJID
Secretary

Kuala Lumpur
10th November 1981

- Notes:
- A member entitled to attend and vote at the meeting is entitled to appoint one or more proxies to attend and vote in his stead. A proxy need not be a member of the company.
 - The instrument appointing a proxy must be deposited at the company's registered office, 152, Jalan Ampang, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, at least 48 hours before the meeting.
 - There are no directors' service contracts provided by the Stock Exchange, London, to be made available for inspection at the meeting.

HK UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD

Announcement of HK International

Earnings and Assets Trust and HK Accumulation Trust with HK UK Market Leaders Trust and change of name of HK UK Market Leaders Trust to HK Market Leaders Trust.

HK Unit Trust Managers Ltd announces that the resolutions of amalgamation of all three trusts were duly passed and that the merger took effect on 1st November 1981. Unitholders became entitled to HK Market Leaders Trust for each unit held in HK UK Market Leaders Trust and HK Accumulation Trust. For each unit held in HK UK Market Leaders Trust, unitholders became entitled to one unit in HK Market Leaders Trust.

3, Frederick's Place, London EC2R 8SD

17th November 1981

THE NATIONAL BANK OF AUSTRALASIA LIMITED

(Incorporated in the State of Victoria, Australia)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Register of Members and Transfer Books of the company will be closed on Friday, 27th November 1981 for one day only for the purpose of payment of final dividend on 18th December 1981. Transfers must be lodged not later than 5 p.m. on 27th November 1981.

By order of the Board of Directors
L. L. REK, A.A.S.A., Secretary

L.U. OVERSEAS FINANCE N.V.

9% Guaranteed Bonds due 1983

S. G. WARBURG & CO. LTD., announces that the redemption in instalment of Bonds for a nominal value of US\$1,000,000 have been purchased for the redemption due on the 15th December, 1981.

US\$2,000,000 nominal amount of Bonds will remain outstanding after 15th December, 1981.

30 Gresham Street, London EC2P 2ER

17th November 1981

GENERAL MOTORS CORPORATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that resulting from the Corporation's Declaration of a Dividend of 30.60 (gross) per share of the Common Stock of the Corporation, payable on the 10th December 1981, there will become due in respect of Bearer Depository Receipts a gross distribution of 3 cents per unit.

The Depository will give further notice of the Sterling Equivalent of the net distribution per unit payable on and after the 15th December 1981.

All claims must be accompanied by a completed Claim Form and U.S.A. Tax Declaration obtainable from the Depository. Claimants other than UK Banks and Members of The Stock Exchange must lodge their Bearer Depository Receipts for marking. Postal claims cannot be accepted.

The Corporation's Third Report for 1981 will be available upon application to the Depository named below.

Barclays Bank Limited
Securities Services Department
54 Lombard Street
London EC3P 3AH

EUROFIMA 1974/1989 8 1/2% US\$ 25,000,000
(Société Européenne pour le Financement de Matériel Ferroviaire)

Notice is hereby given to Bondholders of the above Loan that the amount redeemable on January 15, 1982, i.e. US\$ 2,500,000, was bought on the market.

Amount outstanding: US\$ 17,500,000

Luxembourg, November 17, 1981

The Fiscal Agent
KREDIETBANK
S.A. Luxembourg

APPOINTMENTS

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DAR AL-MAAL AL-ISLAMI
Rue des Alpes 7-1201 Geneva - Switzerland
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DSO, MC, MM...

now, when he sees
a clock, he hides

There are limits to what the human mind can stand. For Major C... after years of bravery in Bomb Disposal, the limit comes each time he sees a clock. Every alarm clock is a bomb, each ticking watch a probable explosion.

Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen all risk mental breakdown equally in war and in keeping the peace. There are bombs much nearer to us than Cyprus, Aden or Malaya.

We devote ourselves solely to the welfare of these brave men and women who have tried to give so much more than they could. We help them at home, and in hospital. We run our own Convalescent Home and, for those who are homeless and cannot look after themselves in the community, our Hostel gives permanent accommodation. For others, there is our Veterans' Home. If we are to go on helping them, we must have funds.

Please send a donation, please sign a covenant, please remember us with a legacy, perhaps. The need is really urgent; and the debt is owed by all of us.

"They've given more than they could — please give as much as you can."

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288 Munster Road
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Ayer Hitam Tin Dredging

Malaysia Berhad

(Incorporated in Malaysia)

Extracts from the Statement by the Chairman,

Y.A.M. Tengku Tan Sri Indra Petra,

For the year ended 30th June, 1981

Performance during the year
Production for the year at 1,346,260 kilograms (piculs) was about 29% below that achieved in the previous year. The decline in production was due to the lower reserves and the presence of stiff clay in the ground which affected dredging operations more severely than expected.

Profit before taxation dropped from \$18,889,000 to \$5,546,000 due to the substantial production shortfall and increase in operating and overhead costs amounting to \$2,403,000. The higher costs were mainly attributed to increase of 50% in power charges and to a lesser extent higher wages paid to employees under the new cost agreements concluded with the unions during the year.

The low tax charge in the current year and the year adjustments are due to amendments to tax laws whereby the basis of computing capital allowances was changed and the exemption from payment of development tax for the incentive for marketing network restructuring has been taken into account in computing the tax charge. Exemption from development tax is available by virtue of the company's marketing arrangement with a Bumiputra i.e. MMC Marketing Sendirian Berhad.

An interim dividend of 60 sen per share, less tax at 40%, was paid on 15th April 1981. A final dividend of 75 sen, less tax at 40%, has been recommended by your board subject to members' approval. This will be paid on 15th December 1981 to all members registered at the close of business on 30th November 1981. This will bring the dividend for the year to 81 sen net per share above \$4,941,000 and leaving an amount of \$6,173,000 to be carried forward.

Projections for the current year
Operations by the Nos. 1 and 2 dredgers will continue virgin ground whilst No. 3 will be transferred via a 40t channel to the area which is under a permit for a Kumpulan Perangas Selangor Berhad in January to work tailings.

The No. 2 dredge was shut down for 35 days during first quarter to carry out major repairs and replacements. Production is expected to be maintained at least at level achieved in the year under review.

Under the cost-plus approach for calculating export first introduced in the 1980 National Budget, a threshold was fixed and export duty was applicable when tin p exceeded \$19.24 per kilogramme (\$1,200 per picul). With a from 15th December 1980 this threshold price was revised to \$23.15 per kilogramme (\$1,400 per picul) and this higher has resulted in a welcome reduction in the total export payable by your company. In the light of escalating price costs it is hoped that the Government will keep threshold price under constant review. This could prolong life of operations and also, perhaps, provide incentives for new investment.

In June this year, the final terms of the Sixth Internat Tin Agreement were finally adopted. The agreement is for ratification until 30th April 1982 and will come into force when the required quota of votes have been received both the consumer and producer countries. I hope that endorsements are forthcoming as I believe that the International Tin Agreement, which provides a framework achieving price stabilisation, represents a careful balance between the interests of both sides.

Outlook
The Company's total holdings now amount to 822 hect (1,463 acres) of which 450 hectares (1,111 acres) are to expire in 1983. Applications have been submitted to authorities for their renewal.

Indications are that the grade of reserves ahead of current year's operations would likely be higher than current values.

6th November 1981
Copies of the Report and Accounts and Chairman's statement will be sent to the Registrars, Pemasaran CMA Management, Berhad, Wisma Bursa Ray, 152, Jalan Ampang, Kuala Lumpur, 5046, Malaysia.

THIRD QUARTER RECOVERY

Modest nine-month profits gain for Philips

BY MICHAEL VAN OS IN AMSTERDAM

IMPROVED third quarter profits leaves Philips, the Dutch electrical group, with nine-month earnings of F1265m (\$110m) at the net level, compared with F1248m for the same period last year.

The company continues to express concern at the weakness of the European economy but reaffirms that for 1981 as a whole Philips should emerge with net profits slightly up on 1980.

There are no signs of an economic recovery anywhere in the world, least of all in Europe, Philips said yesterday. "Accord-

ing to our estimates, Europe's GNP will rise by only 1 to 1.5 per cent next year after showing negative growth in the first half."

Philips said that it was reviewing its massive restructuring programme, for which some F1 bn has been set aside.

"The original programme concentrated on consumer electronics in Europe. But we feel now that the situation is somewhat worse than we expected while it has also become clear that we should widen the restructuring programme to include data systems and medical systems."

Staff cutbacks this year will total 18,000, a reduction of 4.3 per cent. Earlier estimates by Philips suggested that lay-offs in 1981 would total 15,000.

The company has reduced its estimated volume sales increase slightly compared with the previous estimate, from 5 per cent this year to between 4 and 5 per cent.

Third-quarter sales were up 22 per cent to F1 10.7bn, bringing nine-month sales up to F1 30.1bn, against F1 25.6bn. The quarter's trading profit was up 37 per cent to F1 459m and the nine-month figure was up 18 per cent at F1 1.4bn.

In contrast to the declining trading profit in Europe, profits increased in all areas outside Europe. In the Netherlands, the loss in the first three-quarters was reduced largely as a result of increased revenues from exports.

The development of sales in West Germany and the Netherlands had been "particularly disappointing," but Philips had not lost market shares.

For the nine months, Philips says that home electronics and systems for professional applications had shown faster than average growth. Sales of small-

screen colour television sets improved.

Sales growth had stagnated in lighting and batteries and industrial supplies due to, respectively, the decline in the building and motor vehicles market and to a sudden sharp slowdown in the growth of demand for integrated circuits.

Stocks as a percentage of sales, which were 0.6 per cent up at the end of September, were influenced by exchange rates and purchases and sales of subsidiaries. Eliminating those effects, the stock level was about 1 per cent more favourable.

Europe's tyre groups face shift in sales strategy

BY KENNETH GOODING, MOTOR INDUSTRY CORRESPONDENT

THE EUROPEAN tyre industry is due for significant market share changes which could result in some erosion of Michelin's dominant position.

The main beneficiary should be Continental-Uniroyal, according to a major study by the London-based motor industry consultants, Charles Zub Associates (CZA).

The consultants maintain that the tyre industry's ground rules are changing because manufacturers can no longer base their main sales efforts on claims of technical superiority.

There is little to choose between the brands today so in future manufacturing costs and distribution policies will be vital elements in the market share battle.

Europe is now a "mature" market for tyres but, unlike most other mature markets, does not have four or five manufacturers each with 10 to 15 per cent. The current position is one-sided, with Michelin having a dominating 37 per cent of both original equipment and replacement sales.

"However, we expect this position to weaken because Michelin has not taken corrective action to adjust to the changing ground rules," CZA suggests.

Heading the list of those companies which have made the necessary changes is Continental, which has secured its position in Europe via the acquisition of Uniroyal's European facilities.

Other tyre makers which, in CZA's view, have made the necessary changes is Continental, which has secured its position in Europe via the acquisition of Uniroyal's European facilities.

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France "must be possible to be forced out of market."

And those that are expected to lose market over the next 15 years, Semperit, which appears to have significant economies to realise, and Dunlop, which keep pace with unit costs and new tyre developments, and Michelin.

Michelin's expansion in America has not been a cost to its European production facilities, according to C number of its tyre plant quire updating to maintain economies of scale.

The French group will a cost disadvantage vis-à-vis Japanese and more European competitors. cost disadvantage will be clear to cause operators switch to cheaper tyres.

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Foreign investment in France holds up

BY TERRY DODSWORTH IN PARIS

INVESTMENT in France by foreign industrial companies has shown no signs of falling off this year despite fears that it would be hit following the election of the Socialist Government.

According to a preliminary analysis by DATAR, the French regional development agency, the decisions on new job-

creating projects are running at approximately the same level as in the last three years of the previous Government. Throughout that period about 12,000 jobs were created annually by foreign companies, compared with an average of 7,400 in the previous seven years.

DATAR's estimates are based entirely on the announcement of job-creating investments, which may take up to five years to materialise. The agency says that many jobs begin to become available about eight months or so after the decision to invest.

The most significant feature of the DATAR analysis is that it shows no real difference in the behaviour of foreign investors since the Socialist regime came to power in the summer.

One explanation of this trend is that many of the companies involved were already a long way down the road towards an investment decision before the Socialists came to power. They were, therefore, in a difficult position to draw back.

But some bankers also argue that manufacturing companies

are taking a longer term view of the country's future than stock market investors. They feel that France has a strong industrial base which will continue to throw up opportunities for expanding foreign companies, particularly in a period when industry will be stimulated by a number of Government aid programmes.

There is also some evidence that the authorities are treating inward investment requests in a more favourable way than the previous government, which always keenly defended French interests in key areas.

This change of emphasis may be partly due to the current emphasis on creating jobs, and partly to the need to dispel fears that France might sink into protectionist attitudes.

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Base Rate Change

BANK OF BARODA

Bank of Baroda announce that, for balances in their books on and after 17th November, 1981 and until further notice their Base Rate for lending is 15% per annum. The deposit rate on all monies subject to seven days' notice of withdrawal is 12½% per annum.

Indosuez in New Zealand

BY DAVID HOUSEGO IN PARIS

A MERCHANT banking subsidiary has been set up in New Zealand by the Banque de l'Indochine et de Suez (Indosuez), which is being nationalised by the French Government.

Final agreement on the venture, which broadens Indosuez's Far Eastern network, was reached after the French Government decided to "take over the bank."

Among Indosuez's partners in the new bank, which will have a capital of NR\$1.25m

(US\$1.04m) are the New Zealand Dairy Board and the Wool Board. Private local interests also hold additional shares.

The setting up of the new venture, which will carry out all banking business, adds weight to the Government's argument that nationalisation will not put a break on the overseas operations of international banks.

In the Middle and Far East, Indosuez claims to be represented in more countries than any other international bank.

Setback at Esselte in first half

By Westerly Christner

ESSELTE, the Swedish office supplies, graphics and packaging group which recently acquired the UK Letraset graphics concern, posted a drop in pre-tax earnings during the first half of 1981-1982.

Group pre-tax profit was SKr 70m (\$12.8m), compared with the SKr 101m reached in the comparable period a year ago. Consolidated sales rose by 12 per cent to SKr 2.3bn (\$420m) from SKr 2.1bn.

Excluding Letraset, Mr Sven Wallgren, managing director, forecasts that full-year earnings would match or slightly exceed the 1980-81 earnings of SKr 281m. Consolidated sales were expected to climb to about SKr 5.4bn for 1981-82 from the SKr 4.72bn achieved in the previous financial year.

Stronger demand for many group products, sensitive to seasonal fluctuations, will occur later in the current financial

INTL. COMPANIES & FINANCE

NZ Banking increases net profits by 29%

By SYDNEY CORRESPONDENT

ANZ AND New Zealand Group, has reported a 29 per cent increase in net profits for the year ended 30th September 1981, up from \$175.39m to \$225.39m. The latest result was for an Australian bank attributed the earnings to improved performance in Australia and New Zealand, and to the strong performance of its finance company.

The bank's Finance Company of Australia reported a 67 per cent

rise in annual profits to \$12.75m. ANZ is making a one-for-five scrip issue to shareholders and the final dividend has been lifted from 12 cents a share to 14 cents in line with the interim payout. The board said it expected to maintain an annual dividend of not less than 28 cents a share on the expanded capital.

With its growing overseas interests and the possibility of a U.S. acquisition, ANZ has had to meet its capital needs without the help of a big local takeover.

ANZ is limited to increasing

its lending by 9.6 per cent this year because the Reserve Bank has formalised the Australian Government's growth target. After all banks broke the 10 per cent money target restriction in the last financial year. ANZ's revenues rose to \$2.03bn from \$1.65bn. The net profit is after tax of \$143.4m (\$117.6m last year), but before an extraordinary gain of \$29.35m (\$13.1m).

During the takeover wave in the Australian banking sector earlier this year, ANZ held merger talks with Commercial Banking Corporation of Sydney but failed to reach agreement.

MPH offer for rest of Dunlop Estates

By Wong Sulong in Kuala Lumpur

MULTI-PURPOSE Holdings, the investment arm of the Malaysian-Chinese Association, has followed its purchase of 51 per cent of Dunlop Estates, the plantations company, from Dunlop Holdings of the UK, for 211m ringgits (\$394m), by offering to buy the outstanding 49 per cent.

MPH is extending the cash offer made to Dunlop Holdings of 5.75 ringgit a share to the Dunlop Estates minority shareholders.

The alternative offer of their exchanging their shares for MPH shares of one ringgit each valued at 3 ringgit.

All the Dunlop Estates shares acquired by MPH are to be transferred to a new company, to be jointly owned with Pegi.

The deal has aroused considerable dissatisfaction among the Malay politicians, who felt that Malay groups should own 51 per cent of Dunlop Estates instead of 40 per cent, as under the MPH-Pegi tie-up.

The leading critic, Haji Suhaimi, head of the influential youth wing of the ruling United Malays National Organisation said over the weekend the UMNO youth would now leave the matter to Dr Mahathir, the Prime Minister, to arrange a satisfactory solution.

Palmco fails to meet forecast

By Our Kuala Lumpur Correspondent

PALMCO HOLDINGS, Malaysia's largest palm oil refining group, has reported a disappointing year, and has missed the profit forecast made early this year when it went public.

For the year ended June, Palmco's net profit after tax was 12.3m ringgit (\$5.5m), down 500,000 ringgit from 1980. It forecast net profits of 15.1m ringgit in its prospectus in January. Turnover was up 6 per cent to 518m ringgit.

Higher production costs, weak demand overseas, and under-utilisation of the group's refining capacity eroded profit margins, but it is keeping its promise of a final dividend of 7.5 cents a share tax exempt.

Further gains for Bruzen

Financial Staff

IN OIL Company, a Japanese oil refiner, reported a 30 per cent increase in net profits for the first half ended 30 September against a net of \$4.77bn a year earlier, loss of \$23.8bn for the last year. First half net profit rose 5 per cent to \$4.77bn.

The main factor in the deficit was a 32bn foreign exchange loss on the heavy oil price.

Factors were a decline in demand for petroleum products and a sharp rise in costs following a bank borrowing. In a consortium of 15 banks agreed to \$800m-700m of additional funds.

en expects its per-

to recover slightly in

and half with the yen

moving slowly and

demand showing its

seasonal increase.

en's results follow the

pattern. Domestic

peaked in 1978, slipped

in 1979, but fell by

last year.

Importers locked them-

into import contracts

on a steady demand this

consumption is now

to fall about 8 per cent

year leaving them

stocks.

Hulett's sees improvement in sugar division results

By JIM JONES IN JOHANNESBURG

HULETT'S CORPORATION, the diversified South African sugar group, which is jointly controlled by Anglo American Corporation and Tongaat, increased first-half pre-tax operating income by 12.9 per cent to \$39.1m (\$40.7m) in the six months ended September 30. In the corresponding period of 1980, the operating income was \$34.6m and it reached \$63.4m in the full year to March.

The company believes that the current year will result in a substantial improvement in the sugar division's contribution to group income. Excellent spring rains have resulted in a marked improvement in the quantity of cane available to the company's mills in Natal, and it is estimated that the company's share of the industry's production will be 31.9 per cent in the current financial year against 27.8 per cent last year.

A new sugar mill is to be

built in Zululand to replace existing older mills. A new foil rolling mill is also to be added to the aluminium division and this accounts for most of the \$23.7m of capital commitments at end-September.

Construction of the new sugar mill is due to start early in 1982 and is expected to cost about \$110m. The first phase should come into operation in time for the 1983/84 season and the second phase in time for the 1985/86 season. Finance has been arranged for the project.

First-half turnover was \$299.2m against \$260.5m in last year's first half and \$520.6m in the full year. An interim dividend of 23 cents against 12 cents has been declared from first-half earnings of 76.6 cents a share, compared with 56.4 cents. For the year ended March 31, earnings were 109 cents and the dividend total 54 cents.

Limited rise for Dorbyl

By OUR JOHANNESBURG CORRESPONDENT

DORBYL, the South African heavy engineering group, was affected by exceptional losses in its railway products division in the year to September 30 1981 and group's pre-tax profit rose by only 12.3 per cent to \$38.4m (\$37.9m).

The directors are confident however that earnings will increase in the current year as

the group has a good order book.

In August British Steel sold its direct and indirect interests in Dorbyl to companies in the Anglo American group and to Metkor Investments.

A total dividend of 45 cents has been declared from earnings of 148.2 cents a share. In 1980 the dividend was 39 cents and earnings were 147.2 cents.

Approval for Unilever Indonesia issue

By CHARD COWPER IN JAKARTA

DONESIAN subsidiary, the Anglo-Dutch group, won Indonesian approval yesterday for a \$100m expansion programme which will see the company building over the next few years a toiletries factory in Jakarta and a soap plant in Surabaya, and the modernisation and expansion of a number of other plants.

Last year, Unilever Indonesia made a net profit of 18.8bn rupiahs (\$30m) on a turnover of 136bn rupiahs (\$215m). This year it expects to make a net profit of 23bn rupiahs on a turnover of about 145bn rupiahs.

made on the exchange to date and is equal to more than 60 per cent of the total value of all shares now listed.

The offer will open on November 30 and close on December 18 and Unilever will be listed by January 4, making it the ninth company to go public since Indonesia's Stock Exchange was revived in 1977.

Unilever Indonesia's sale of shares at 3.175 rupiahs each will be a new issue and will not come

from the 32.1m shares currently held by its Dutch and British parents.

Pt Danareksa, the government investment trust, has underwritten 50 per cent of the issue while brokers Pt Aseam and Pt Merincorp have taken 25 per cent each.

Mr Philip Martin, Unilever Indonesia's commercial director, said the decision to go public was made to comply with the Indonesian Government's desire for more local equity participation in foreign companies. Going public, he says, has also

been a decided advantage for receiving official approval for expansion. Unilever is planning a \$100m expansion programme which will see the company building over the next few years a toiletries factory in Jakarta and a soap plant in Surabaya, and the modernisation and expansion of a number of other plants.

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BASE LENDING RATES

Bank of England	15%	Grindlays Bank	15%
Bank of Ireland	15%	Guinness Mahon	15%
Bank of Scotland	15%	Hambros Bank	15%
Bank of Cyprus	15%	Heritable & Gen. Trust	15%
Bank of N.S.W.	15%	Hill Samuel	15%
Bank of South Africa	15%	C. Hoare & Co.	15%
Bank of Victoria	15%	Hongkong & Shanghai	15%
Bank of Western Australia	15%	Knightsley & Co. Ltd.	15%
Bank of New Zealand	15%	Lloyds Bank	15%
Bank of New South Wales	15%	Mallinham Limited	15%
Bank of Queensland	15%	Edward Manson & Co.	15%
Bank of South Australia	15%	Midland Bank	15%
Bank of Western Australia	15%	Samuel Montagu	15%
Bank of New Zealand	15%	Morgan Grenfell	15%
Bank of Victoria	15%	National Westminster	15%
Bank of Western Australia	15%	Norwich General Trust	15%
Bank of New Zealand	15%	P. S. Refson & Co.	15%
Bank of Victoria	15%	Roxburgh Guarantee	15%
Bank of Western Australia	15%	R. S. Schwab	15%
Bank of New Zealand	15%	Slavenburg's Bank	15%
Bank of Victoria	15%	Standard Chartered	15%
Bank of Western Australia	15%	Trade Dev. Bank	15%
Bank of New Zealand	15%	Trustee Savings Bank	15%
Bank of Victoria	15%	TCB Ltd.	15%
Bank of Western Australia	15%	United Bank of Kuwait	15%
Bank of New Zealand	15%	Whiteaway Laidlaw	15%
Bank of Victoria	15%	Williams & Glyn's	15%
Bank of Western Australia	15%	Winttrust Secs. Ltd.	15%
Bank of New Zealand	15%	Yorkshire Bank	15%
Bank of Victoria	15%	Members of the Accepting Houses Committee	15%
Bank of Western Australia	15%	7-day deposits 13%, 1-month 13.25%, Short term 13.00%/12 months 15.00%	15%
Bank of New Zealand	15%	7-day deposits on sums of £10,000 and under 13%, up to £50,000 13.5%, and over £50,000 14%	15%
Bank of Victoria	15%	Call deposits £1,000 and over 13%	15%
Bank of Western Australia	15%	Demand deposits 12%	15%
Bank of New Zealand	15%	21-day deposits over £1,000 14%	15%
Bank of Victoria	15%	Mortgage base rate	15%

NOTICE

SAISHOWA PAPER MANUFACTURING CO. LTD.

Aggregate face amount on issue: U.S.\$15,000,000
7% Currency Linked/U.S. Dollar Payable
Guaranteed Notes due 1987

pursuant to paragraph (B) of Condition 4 and Condition 11 of the Notes we hereby notify that we, as the Purchase agent of the Notes, purchased Notes in the aggregate face amount of U.S.\$1,500,000 during the period beginning on 10th December, 1980 and ending on 14th November, 1981.

Sumitomo Finance International
Purchase Agent

All of these securities having been sold, this announcement appears as a matter of record only.

\$150,000,000

CITICORP

16.45% Notes Due November 1, 1986

Goldman, Sachs & Co.

The First Boston Corporation

Merrill Lynch White Weld Capital Markets Group
Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated

Salomon Brothers Inc.

Warburg Paribas Becker
A. G. Becker

Morgan Stanley & Co.
Incorporated

Bache Halsey Stuart Shields
Incorporated

Bear, Stearns & Co.
Incorporated

Blyth Eastman Paine Webber
Incorporated

Dillon, Read & Co. Inc.

Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette
Securities Corporation

Drexel Burnham Lambert
Incorporated

E. F. Hutton & Company Inc.

Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc.

Kidder, Peabody & Co.
Incorporated

Lazard Frères & Co.

Lehman Brothers Kuhn Loeb
Incorporated

L. F. Rothschild, Unterberg, Towbin

Shearson/American Express Inc.

Smith Barney, Harris Upham & Co.
Incorporated

Wertheim & Co., Inc.

Dean Witter Reynolds Inc.

November, 1981

THIS ANNOUNCEMENT APPEARS AS A MATTER OF RECORD ONLY.

THE FOLLOWING LONDON FRCD ISSUES INCLUDE
A ONCE-ONLY CALL PROVISION AT THE SOLE OPTION OF THE ISSUER.
NEGOTIABLE FLOATING RATE CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

MANAGED BY

CHASE MANHATTAN LIMITED



THE MITSUBISHI BANK, LIMITED
LONDON BRANCH
U.S.\$30,000,000
DUE OCTOBER 31, 1986



THE DAI-ICHI KANGYO BANK, LIMITED
LONDON BRANCH
U.S.\$20,000,000
DUE NOVEMBER 13, 1986

AGENT

THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK, N.A.

NOVEMBER, 1981

This announcement appears as a matter of record only, October 1981

Cogasco S.A.

an Argentine Company
owned by Nacap S.A., Tessa S.A. and Pamar S.A.

equivalent of

US\$875,000,000

Project Re-financing for the Gasoducto Centro-Oeste,
a natural gas pipeline system in Argentina.

Arranged by

Lloyds Bank International Limited and Amsterdam-Rotterdam Bank N.V.

Dutch Export Credit Facilities

Cogasco S.A.
Dfls. 1,100,000,000

Cogasco S.A.
US\$100,000,000

Managed and Provided by

Amsterdam-Rotterdam Bank N.V.
Hollandsche Bank-Unie N.V.
Nederlandsche Middenstandsbank N.V.
Rabobank Nederland
Bank Mees & Hope N.V.
F. van Lanschot Bankiers N.V.
Nederlandse Credietbank N.V.
N.V. Slavenburg's Bank
Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Company of Chicago
Pierson, Holding & Pierson N.V.
Lloyds Bank International Limited
Banque Européenne de Crédit (BEC)
Grindlays Bank Limited

Insured by

Nederlandsche Credietverzekering Maatschappij N.V.

Eurodollar Project Facilities

Cogasco S.A.
US\$85,000,000
Eurodollar Facility
Assisted by
Kredietbank N.V.

Cogasco S.A.
US\$65,000,000
Short Term Loan

Cogasco S.A.
US\$75,000,000
Standby Facility guaranteed by
Royal Boskalis Westminster N.V.

Managed and Provided by

Amsterdam-Rotterdam Bank N.V.
Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Company of Chicago
Hollandsche Bank-Unie N.V.
Lloyds Bank International (Bahamas) Limited
Nederlandsche Middenstandsbank N.V.
Rabobank Nederland
Kredietbank N.V.
Midland Bank Limited
The Toronto-Dominion Bank
Wardley International Bank Limited
Bank of Montreal
Banque Européenne de Crédit (BEC)
Lloyds Bank International Limited
Nederlandsche Credietbank N.V.
Grindlays Bank Limited
Algemene Bank Nederland N.V.
Banque Européenne pour l'Amérique Latine (B.E.A.L.) S.A.
Bank Mees & Hope N.V.
Pierson, Holding & Pierson N.V.
N.V. Slavenburg's Bank
F. van Lanschot Bankiers N.V.

Agent

Amsterdam-Rotterdam Bank N.V.



CONTRACTS

£10m ductwork order

The Senior Engineering Group has appointed HENRY RAGGAVAN AND SONS, Bury, a subsidiary company, to contract the supply, delivery and installation of the ventilation ductwork for the new Heysham power station. The contract has been awarded by Haden Young, mechanical services contractor on this project.

The contract value, at about £10m, is said to be the largest ductwork contract ever placed in the UK and incorporates mild steel, galvanneal steel, stainless steel and plastic ductwork, together with the installation of the related plant equipment. The contract programme is scheduled for 50 months.

Orders worth nearly £3m have been received by HONEYWELL INFORMATION SYSTEMS in less than a month since it announced its DSP line of medium-scale computers. The substantial new business includes a £250,000 contract from the Midlands Building Society, and one valued at £130,000 from Beneficial Trust, a member of the Beneficial International Finance and Banking Group.

The A.P.V. COMPANY, Crawley, has an order worth over £1m from the Distillers Company

for an APV-Rose evaporator to concentrate spent wash at the Cambus distillery. Fitted with mechanical vapour recompression the plant will replace an existing quadruple effect evaporator as part of a major energy reduction project.

ROCLA (GREAT BRITAIN), Milton Keynes, has been awarded a contract by the Southern Water Authority, for the supply of 1.7 km of 2400 mm diameter pre-stressed concrete pipe for Phase IIA of the Moon Valley sewer.

A £4m contract for the construction of a new pharmaceutical packaging plant has been let to WARRING (CONTRACTORS) of Portsmouth by John Wyeth and Brother at its Havant Laboratories. The scheme, due to commence in December and programmed to be completed in 13 months.

Contracts worth more than £2.6m have been awarded to CUBITT (SOUTH WEST). The largest is a £1.3m scheme for the design and construction of 50 traditionally built homes at RAF Chivenor, near Barnstaple, Devon. It is the latest in a series of contracts here awarded by the PSA. Another contract, worth £480,000, is for alterations and extensions at Bideford Hos-

pital for the South-Western Regional Health Authority. Other contracts recently awarded include the refurbishment and conversion of Felixstowe House, a Victorian detached house at Clifton, Bristol, into office accommodation for Tarmac Properties (£330,000), and the installation of cash dispensers at 42 West Country branches of the Midland Bank for NCR (£250,000). Two smaller contracts are for repairs to council homes for Yeovil District Council (£100,000) and the provision of extra animal accommodation at Bristol Cats and Dogs Home (£95,000).

W. H. ALLEN, Bedford, part of NEI-A.P.E., has been awarded a contract by British Telecom for diesel generating plant worth £1.3m. Two Allen diesel engines, 2,500kW alternators, switchgear, and ancillary equipment are to be installed in a London telecommunications centre.

A contract worth £250,000 has been awarded to SERCK CONTRACTS, Coventry, by Placid International Oil, Den Helder, Holland. It covers the supply of computerised monitoring and control equipment for the Placid L10 natural gas field in the North Sea, off northern Holland. The system will allow six routing well platforms to be controlled from the field's

main production platform. There will also be a data link to the company's onshore operations centre at Den Helder.

Construction of a sewage treatment works has started at Tring, Herts., in a 70 week £1m contract, won by HENRY BOOT. Within the contract are modifications to existing inlet works and sedimentation tanks plus construction of returned activated sludge submersible pumping station, reaction tank, final settlement tanks, and other works.

Contracts to the value of £2.4m have been won by JOHN LELAND, a 26 Austin Friars, London EC4, an Eim construction and reconstruction of a six-storey office for Laing Investment Company. Existing partitions, flooring and ceilings are to be removed from the 5th floor at Stratton House, Piccadilly, London W1, under a £400,000 contract for Stratton House.

AUXITROL UK has been awarded a contract by Bechtel Great Britain for the supply of Annubar Dp flow measurement devices for Beryl B Platform, operated by Mobil North Sea. The contract worth nearly £150,000, called for two different types of Annubar model both supplied in varying lengths.

Sterling firm

Sterling continued to improve in currency markets yesterday as interest rates attracted demand in the light of falling U.S. rates. UK rates were also easier but maintained a competitive edge over other countries.

The dollar was also firmer despite lower U.S. rates with a fall in the D-mark seen as the main factor influencing trading. The D-mark lost ground in the European Monetary System yesterday ahead of Thursday's Bundesbank meeting when key leading rates could be cut. The French franc was also weaker as domestic rates continued to fall. The Danish krone remained the strongest currency while the Norwegian kroner was the weakest.

STERLING — trade weighted index (Bank of England) rose to 91.5 from 90.7, having stood at 91.5 at noon and 91.1 in the morning. Sterling attracted strong demand during the morning but came back during the afternoon to finish near its lowest level of the day. It was still sharply firmer in comparison with Friday's closing rates in London however, finishing at DM 4.2875 against the D-mark compared with DM 4.44 and SwF 3.3750 from SwF 3.3450. It was also up against the French franc at FF 10.7575 from FF 10.6675. Against the dollar it opened at \$1.9250 and closed initially to \$1.9150 before rising to a best level of \$1.9130. During the afternoon it fell back however, finishing at \$1.9130-1.9140, a rise of 55 points.

DOLLAR — trade weighted index (Bank of England) was 106.9 (107.0). Crocker National Bank cut its prime rate to 16 per cent and Euro-dollar rates were lower but the dollar tended to improve on weakness of the Deutsche Mark. It finished at DM 2.2500 against the D-mark, up from DM 2.2210 on Friday and SwF 1.7625 from SwF 1.7585.

SwF 1.7525. It was weaker against the Japanese yen however at ¥225.40 from ¥227.25.

DEUTSCHE MARK — weakest member of the European Monetary System following the recent currency realignment but recovering after trading close to its divergence limit for several weeks. It has also recovered against the dollar as U.S. interest rates continue to fall, but shows signs of weakening once more, amid rumours of lower German rates. The Deutsche Mark was mostly weaker at yesterday's fixing in Frankfurt, reflecting some loss of confidence in German domestic policy and lower interest rates. The dollar rose to DM 2.2325 from DM 2.2125 with no Bundesbank intervention and the D-mark rose to DM 4.3000 compared with DM 4.2170, within the EMS the Dutch guilder rose to DM 91.50 from DM 91.51 per FF 100 and the Belgian franc improved to DM 5.975 from BFR 100 from DM 5.962. Elsewhere the Swiss franc rose to DM 1.2500 from DM 1.2550. In later trading the dollar was quoted at DM 2.2350.

FRENCH FRANC — The latest EMS reshuffle which resulted in a devaluation of the French franc has helped to remove upward pressure on French interest rates with both domestic and Euro-franc rates falling steadily. The franc is fairly steady at the moment against the Deutsche Mark while its performance elsewhere depends largely on movements in the dollar. The French franc was mostly weaker at yesterday's fixing in Paris. The dollar rose to FF 10.6675 from FF 10.5750 and the Deutsche Mark rose to FF 10.7575 from FF 10.6675. The Belgian franc rose to FF 10.7575 from FF 10.6675. The Dutch guilder rose to FF 10.7575 from FF 10.6675. The Swiss franc rose to FF 10.7575 from FF 10.6675. The Danish krone rose to FF 10.7575 from FF 10.6675. The Norwegian kroner rose to FF 10.7575 from FF 10.6675. The Japanese yen rose to FF 10.7575 from FF 10.6675. The Australian dollar rose to FF 10.7575 from FF 10.6675. The New Zealand dollar rose to FF 10.7575 from FF 10.6675. The South African rand rose to FF 10.7575 from FF 10.6675. The Hong Kong dollar rose to FF 10.7575 from FF 10.6675. The Singapore dollar rose to FF 10.7575 from FF 10.6675. The U.S. dollar rose to FF 10.7575 from FF 10.6675.

THE DOLLAR SPOT AND FORWARD

Nov 16	Day's spread	Close	One month	Three months
UK	1.9110-1.9110	1.9130-1.9140	0.33-0.33	0.75-0.75
Canada	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	0.33-0.33	0.75-0.75
France	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	0.33-0.33	0.75-0.75
Germany	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	0.33-0.33	0.75-0.75
Italy	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	0.33-0.33	0.75-0.75
Japan	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	0.33-0.33	0.75-0.75
Netherlands	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	0.33-0.33	0.75-0.75
Belgium	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	0.33-0.33	0.75-0.75
Denmark	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	0.33-0.33	0.75-0.75
Sweden	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	0.33-0.33	0.75-0.75
Switzerland	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	0.33-0.33	0.75-0.75

THE POUND SPOT AND FORWARD

Nov 16	Day's spread	Close	One month	Three months
US	1.9110-1.9110	1.9130-1.9140	0.33-0.33	0.75-0.75
Canada	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	0.33-0.33	0.75-0.75
France	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	0.33-0.33	0.75-0.75
Germany	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	0.33-0.33	0.75-0.75
Italy	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	0.33-0.33	0.75-0.75
Japan	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	0.33-0.33	0.75-0.75
Netherlands	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	0.33-0.33	0.75-0.75
Belgium	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	0.33-0.33	0.75-0.75
Denmark	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	0.33-0.33	0.75-0.75
Sweden	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	0.33-0.33	0.75-0.75
Switzerland	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	0.33-0.33	0.75-0.75

Belgian rate is for convertible francs. Financial franc 75.70-75.80. Six-month forward dollar 0.80-0.70c. 12-month 0.85-0.70c.

CURRENCY MOVEMENTS CURRENCY RATES

Nov 16	Bank of England	Morgan Guaranty	Nov 15	Bank of England	Morgan Guaranty
US	1.9110-1.9110	1.9130-1.9140	1.9110-1.9110	1.9130-1.9140	1.9130-1.9140
Canada	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250
France	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250
Germany	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250
Italy	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250
Japan	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250
Netherlands	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250
Belgium	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250
Denmark	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250
Sweden	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250
Switzerland	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250	1.9250-1.9250

Based on trade weighted changes from previous day. Bank of England index (base average 1975=100).

OTHER CURRENCIES

Nov 16	US	Nov 15	US
Argentina peso	13,458-13,478	8,661-8,611	13,458
Brazil cruzeiro	2,525-2,525	116-116	2,525
Colombian peso	1,338-1,338	4,340-4,340	1,338
Costa Rican colón	1,100-1,100	56-56	1,100
Czechoslovak koruna	10,811-10,811	5,645-5,645	10,811
Indian rupee	100-100	75-75	100
Israeli sheqel	0.030-0.030	0.030-0.030	0.030
Japanese yen	171-171	37-37	171
Malaysian dollar	3,307-3,307	8,240-8,240	3,307
New Zealand dollar	3,307-3,307	3,307-3,307	3,307
Saudi riyal	6,535-6,535	3,435-3,435	6,535
Singapore dollar	2,545-2,545	3,070-3,070	2,545
Taiwan dollar	1,338-1,338	1,338-1,338	1,338
U.S. dollar	7,017-7,017	1,375-1,375	7,017

Rate given for Argentina is the commercial rate. The financial rate for Argentina is 1/2 and for the dollar 1/2.

FT UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

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TECHNOLOGY

LancerBoss Goliaths spearhead attack

BY ALAN CANE

flamboyance more the prestige car busi- the workhorses of in- LancerBoss has an- he Goliaths of its new of lift trucks.

range, the G-series, to 25 to 42 tonne picking up the com- munit that the new to spearhead its improve its position rd market, there are than 17 different the range.

of a microprocessor hem. While the fork- (lift) truck is in n. s. a natural for the n. of microelectronics, to be true chiefly for and medium trucks a the new LancerBoss

the simplicity and robustness of mechanical systems."

LancerBoss has the lion's share of the lift truck market in the UK, but it is only fourth in the world market behind Hyster and Clark of the U.S. and Kalmar LMV of Sweden.

The new range is designed to change all that. Mr Balderstone points to improvements in stability and noise level as well as ergonomic features such as a driver's cab which can be swivelled around 180 degrees.

According to Lancer Boss sources, the market for these very big trucks able to move containers around docks areas will be about 1,000 units a year worldwide by the mid-1980s, of which the company hopes to win 20 per cent.

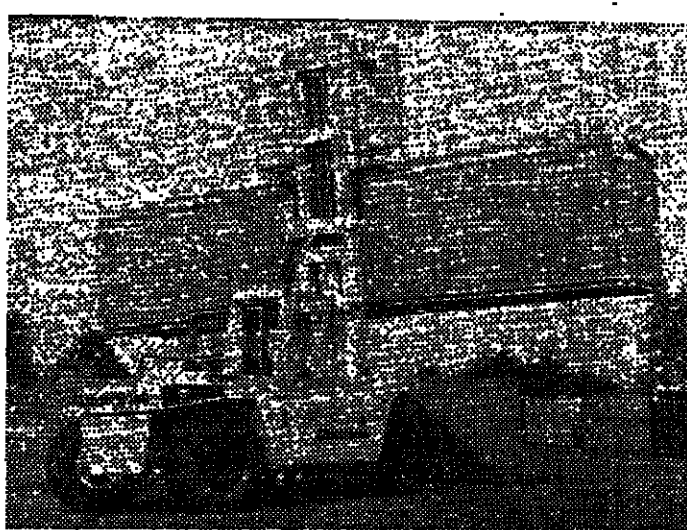
The average cost of each truck is between £100,000 and £150,000. LancerBoss sell packages, the truck together with spares, maintenance, training and so on — bringing the cost per unit to about £200,000 — meaning a yearly market for these giants in the region of £20m, and the company's share of that market hopefully in the £2m region.

This year, so far, the company's sales have reached almost £40m with a pre-tax profit of £2.6m.

LancerBoss believes it has established six basic technological concepts which dictate standards for all lift trucks. These are:

- Long wheelbase ratio to ensure even weight distribution, improved stability and reduced wear on tyres and steering.
- Unitary construction so major components can be individually mounted and removed to simplify maintenance.
- Twin-cylinder full power steering.
- Torque converter, power-shift transmission to provide smooth operation at all speeds in conjunction with an inching pedal and hand operated direction selection.
- Triple filtered hydraulic system to minimise risk of failure and, by use of gear pump, to cope with pressure surges.
- Ergonomic design of the operator's cab.

The new range of trucks is fitted with Perkins V8.640 diesel engines or the Cummins



THIS LancerBoss G320/120GPH truck is one of a range of 17 new trucks with capacities from 25 to 42 tonnes.

NH8550-250 (Perkins up to 28 tonnes, Cummins, the larger machines).

The trucks fit four basic application categories: the GP for conventional industrial applications, the GP/CH which can be altered quickly to turn the truck into a container handler, the CH, dedicated to

Ultragraf is a 3-D graphic workstation

INTRODUCED BY Lundy-Farrington, the European subsidiary of Lundy Electronics and Systems Inc in the U.S. is the Ultragraf, an interactive three-dimensional graphics design workstation for CAD.

The workstation can have up to 128,000 words of buffer and refresh memory so that the central mainframe employed can be relieved of processing and communications loads while achieving high speeds, high productivity, reduced time costs and greater networking ability. A high resolution 21-inch display is used and the options available include light pen, data tablet, function keyboard, alphanumeric keyboard, joystick

and control dials. Raster conversion is also available to yield electrostatic plotter output at widths up to 42 in.

Ultragraf's software allows drawing to be performed in orthogonal and defined non-orthogonal planes in cartesian, spherical, cylindrical or polar co-ordinates. Most kinds of lines can be drawn in various textures and the display facilities include rotation, translation, scaling, zooming, windowing and clipping.

The unit is suitable for mechanical design, mapping, architectural design, engineering construction and electronic circuit/board design. More on 0705 823866.

Rinse control

MERLIN RESEARCH has designed a series of rinse tank control systems consisting of a sensor, transformer box and solenoid valve. The sensor is available with a range of two to 300 microohms for DI quality water or 20 to 3,000 microohms for tap water. Full details from Merlin, Unit 18, Central Trading Estate, Stains, Middx (0784 59951).

Control valves

FASTER lowering times and better safety are claimed for a new generation of Eddbro tipper control valves. Production will start in January of the new design which consists of a range of interchangeable piston-type relief cartridges with pre-set tamper proof pressure setting from 105 to 250 bar. More from Eddbro 0204 25888.

Comtec market system now extended to the UK

ING the successful year of a user-based office equipment Europe, the MIL Revup has now extended amme, called Comtec,

Object is to provide companies operating in this area with "a single authoritative source" of market data. The 1981 Comtec programme covers copiers/duplicators, word processing, computers,

printers and terminals. Reports, to be issued next month, will provide data from 21,000 establishments in France, Germany and the UK, and the cost of a standard report will lie between £5,000 and £10,000

per product group per country. Preliminary data from MIL shows that 40 per cent of DP system users, 50 per cent of electronic typing equipment buyers and 60 per cent of the users of plain paper copiers

are in organisations with less than 20 employees. Thus, the traditional emphasis placed by vendors on medium and large companies would appear nowdays to be misplaced. More on 01-637 1444.



Sea profiler

AN ACCURATE record of seabed contours and sub-bottom sediment layers with a seabed penetration of up to 20 metres can be obtained with a new gyro-stabilised sub-bottom profiler developed by Ulvertech of Ulverston, Cumbria (0239 55474).

The unit, which has just been supplied to the Dutch Water Authority, is able to produce a 5 degree acoustical beamwidth. It can operate at 5, 10, or 20 kilohertz, yielding sub-bottom data to a resolution of 10 cm on a higher frequency of 200 kHz, soundings of the water/seabed interface can be obtained to plus or minus two centimetres. Operating range is two to 50 metres off the bottom. The narrow beamwidth, giving good definition of the plane of the sea-bed, has in turn

called for a gyro-stabilised mounting platform to prevent distortion of the data due to sea conditions. The design used can even out roll and pitch of 20 degrees with a three second period.

As a result, survey work can be carried out in nearly all weathers at speeds up to 10 knots.

Print-stations

CENTRONICS, currently in the throws of reversing a loss of \$24m on revenues of \$124m in the year to June 1981, is launching a number of new product ranges.

One of these is the Print-station 350 series, described by the company as "the one printer solution" for data processing, word processing and business computing applications. Each of the three units avail-

able can accommodate cut sheet, fan-fold and forms. There are fewer moving parts, so raising reliability. In addition to a user-replaceable print head and a long-life ribbon cartridge. There are eight resident character sets in this 8 x 7 dot matrix machine. Print speed is 200 cps.

The Printstation 350 is the basic model, a building block unit requiring either a custom-designed or a Centronics designed formatter and control panel. It is aimed at original equipment makers.

Model 352 is designed for data processing quality print, making it applicable to small business computing systems, distributed processing and minis or micros.

The model 353 has the added ability to provide correspondence quality print by making multiple passes at 50 cps. More on 01-581 1011.

Optical data processing

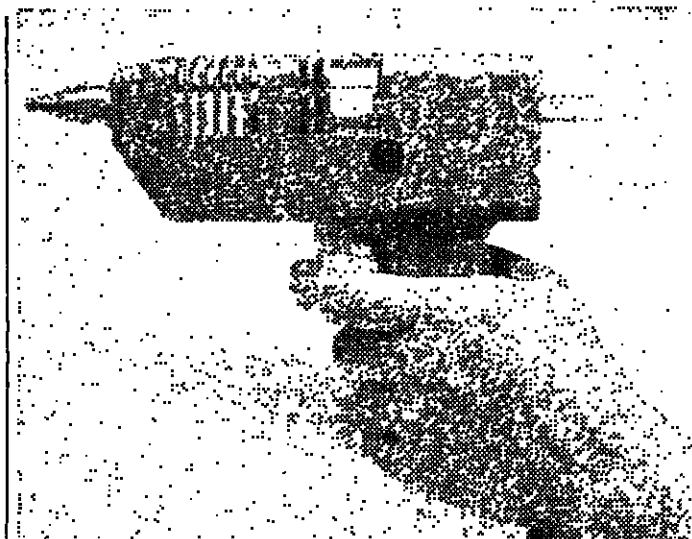
IMAGE ANALYSIS systems for the high-speed processing of optical image data are being assessed by Sira Institute, Chislehurst (01-467 2636).

The object is to promote their use in industry and to enable companies to match system performance to their own applications. Such systems are being increasingly used in automatic inspection and gauging, microscopy and radiography, remote sensing and robot vision.

Currently being evaluated is the CLIP 4 array processing system. This is based on work at University College, London, and has the advantage of being able to cope with the very high speeds needed for real time industrial applications and for processing large amounts of image data.

Sira is collaborating with British Technology Group to provide testing facilities for a prototype which is to be manufactured shortly.

Companies are invited to subscribe to the assessment project: speak to Mr R. A. Brook at Sira.



Hot-melt gun should interest DIY enthusiasts

THE "Midi" hot melt gun comprises a lightweight aluminium melt chamber, a dispensing nozzle with 1.5mm orifice and a slide trigger actuating a ratchet gripping and controlling the hot melt stick. The solid thermal glue sticks require no preparation and are simply extruded by the trigger pressure. The company, GS Airmatics, Liverpool Road, Kingston-upon-Thames (01-549 0668) says the gun has obvious industrial applications but should also interest DIY enthusiasts.



expanding NORTHAMPTON real town - real value

A mature Middle England environment, an established local economy and a stable, adaptable workforce, all have a real value when adding up the benefits of relocation and expansion in Northampton—a real town.

As a growing county town on the M1 and midway between London and Birmingham, Northampton's location can pay off in real terms—50% of Britain's industry and 57% of its population is within a 100 mile radius.

Industrial sites and unit factories A wide range of industrial sites are available on four employment areas. A choice of unit factories ranging from 3500 sq ft to 39000 sq ft immediately available at Brackmills and Moulton Park.

All units have mains services, central heating, offices and parking facilities.

A number of small business units of 1000 sq ft immediately available at Moulton Park.

Office buildings in the town centre Princess House, 21500 sq ft with 50 car parking spaces. Elgin House, 17000 sq ft with 53 car parking spaces. Notre Dame Mews, 15500 sq ft in a central location. Other properties from 300 to 10000 sq ft.

Office sites in Northampton In the town centre an important site of 1.5 acres for a development up to 140000 sq ft. One site for 4000 sq ft and two sites for 30000 sq ft. At Weston

Favell District Centre a site for up to 100000 sq ft. Moulton Park provides 76 acres of campus sites in a rural setting.

Northampton offers you real value in a real town

Contact Donald McLean on 0604 34734

Northampton Development Corporation, 2-3 Market Square, Northampton NN1 2EN

The original image processor.



Some improvements.

Image processing has come a long way. With the help of a computer, it is now possible to clarify, enlarge, reduce or amend any picture that has been generated electronically: by TV camera, satellite sensor, industrial scanner, x-ray or electron microscope.

In addition to mining, petrochemicals, forestry and agriculture, manufacturing industry too exploits image processing. Scanning devices are increasingly used to monitor mass-produced articles at high speed and with complete accuracy. They can recognise bruised fruit or spot blemishes in materials, for example.

But now — working closely with Cambridge University — Cadcentre has developed an even more advanced image processing system called GEMS.

GEMS is a very high speed and powerful hardware system with TV input which will arithmetically correct picture distortion and interference at TV speed.

It can be interfaced with your existing computer hardware, and is flexible enough to be used in all kinds of manufacturing processes to improve productivity and lead to substantial savings in costs.

GEMS — a superb new product of British computer technology — is already being used by universities, research organisations and manufacturing companies.

To get a clearer picture of what GEMS can do to improve your image, contact Terry Barlow, CADCENTRE, Dept B, Madingley Rd, Cambridge CB3 0HB. (Tel: 0223 314848).

CADCENTRE Computer Aided Design Centre.

An Industrial Research Establishment of the Department of Industry.

Strength of longer-dated Gilts contrasts sharply with slump in both equity leaders and Gold shares

Account Dealing Dates

*First Declared Last Account
Dealings: Nov 19 Nov 20 Nov 21
Nov 22 Nov 23 Dec 4 Dec 14
Dec 7 Dec 17 Dec 22 Jan 4

** New time: dealings may take place from 9 am two business days earlier.

Sharply contrasting trends emerged in the main investment areas of London stock markets yesterday. Longer-dated Government securities, which were left untapped following last Friday's announcement of a 10% issue of short-dated stock, continued buoyantly in their unexpected freedom. Equity markets, however, weakened across the board, while Gold shares sustained heavy losses as the bullion price wilted further.

Optimism that the current fall in international interest rates would continue was reinforced by Press forecasts of another early cut in UK base lending rates. Sterling's fresh strength yesterday was an added stimulant, encouraging renewed demand for longer Gilts on yield considerations. Stock shortage was again a major problem and gains stretched to over 11 points before the announcement that the Bank of England had imposed a 10% penalty on the borrowing rate on the Discount Houses.

Taken as an indication that the Bank did not wish UK rates to fall too quickly, the move curbed buying enthusiasm in

Gilt-edged and eventually touched off short-term profit-taking which finally pared rises to around a point, selected stocks held gains to 1%. The shorts were inhibited by Thursday's issue of Exchequer 14 per cent 1986, payable £40 on application at a minimum tender price of 95½, and fluctuated narrowly before closing easier on balance. The U.S. Prime Rate cut to 16 per cent came too late to affect sentiment. Reflecting the tone of the long, the FT Government Securities index gained 0.82 more to 64.30.

In stark contrast, the two-week upsurge in leading shares was suddenly reversed. Adverse publicity about the economic outlook, bearish predictions from analysts and chartists, and the unsettled labour scene all served to undermine equity holders. The support recently gained from interest rate optimism evaporated and a fair amount of selling developed prior to the opening of the Gilt market.

An attempted recovery on the part of Gilts was short-lived and, in the absence of follow-through demand, leading shares weakened again. Conditions became more sensitive after reports of Wall Street's early setback yesterday. As a result, the FT Industrial Ordinary share index, up 50 points over the previous fortnight, closed 15.5 down at the day's lowest of 503.7.

Total contracts completed

yesterday in Traded options amounted to 1,204 which compares with last week's daily average of 1,163. Lendro and F & O attracted 132 and 101 calls respectively, while dealings in puts were again dominated by Rascal which recorded 157 trades.

City Site made an extremely quiet debut in the Unlisted Securities Market: placed at 35p, the shares opened at that price and closed at 34p; the 10 per cent Convertible opened at 33p and closed at 32p.

Cable and Wireless encountered selling and shed 7 to 191p against the issue price of 168p.

Royals disappoints

Third-quarter profits well below market estimates and an increase in underwriting losses to £54.5m depressed Royal Insurance which dropped to 352p before rallying late on bear closing to settle a net 13 down at 356p. Commercial Union, which announced disappointing third-quarter results last week, dipped to a 1981 low of 121p before closing 7 down on balance at 122p. Sun Alliance gave up 30 to 900p, while General Accident, 942p, and GIRE, 308p, lost 10 apiece. Life issues shared in the general dullness. Legal and General shedding 6 to 205p and Prudential 5 to 229p.

The major clearing banks drifted lower on expectations of a further cut in base rates this week. Barclays, 428p, and Midland, 306p, registered falls of 10, while NatWest and Lloyds shed 5 pence to 390p and 400p respectively.

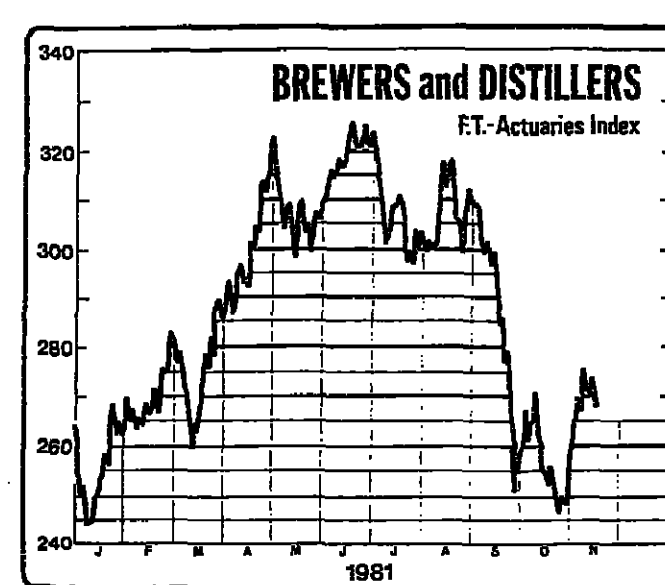
Breweries were marked lower in the absence of support. Whitbread, 148p, and Bass, 201p, gave up 3 and 5 respectively, while Grand Metropolitan closed 6 off at 161p. Recent down raid candidate Scottish and Newcastle eased 21 to 50½p. Regionals also ended lower. Hisonics declined 4 to 62p in front of today's preliminary results.

Leading Buildings were subjected to a certain amount of selling. Blue Circle closing cheaper at 472p and London Brick 11 off at 661p. Elsewhere, John Finlan, recently involved in abortive bid discussions with an unnamed party, relinquished 6 to 136p.

Dull at the outset, ICI picked up to unchanged in sympathy with Gilt-edged before weakening again to close 10 down at 276p.

Pawson suspended

Standing a shade easier at the outset, leading Stores attempted a mid-morning rally but lack of follow-through support ended at the day's lowest. Gussies A closed 13 down at 425p, while falls of 4 were noted in UDS, 65p, House of Fraser, 155p, and Marks and Spencer, 123p. Renewed speculation of a takeover attempt by J. Sainsbury prompted another active trade in British Home Stores, which touched 14½ before settling for a net loss of 3 at 135p. W. H.



Smith, interim results expected tomorrow, gave up 5 at 182p. Secondary issues traded quietly and generally without distinction. Profit-taking clipped 15p from Polly Peck, 356p, and 7 from Corbett Dress, 149p, but a favourable Press mention helped Rowland Gaunt to rise 4 to 42p. Bolton Textile announced a reduced annual dividend and were marked a couple of pence lower at 16p. Mail-order firm, late, closed lower: Grattan shed 6 to 82p, while Empire gave up 4 at 68p. Dealings in W. L. Pawson were suspended at 7p at the company's request; the group's bankers have cited that further support is reliant upon a substantial reduction in borrowings.

An attempted rally in the Electrical leaders soon fizzled out and final quotations were the lowest of the day. GEC, down 25 at 727p, failed to benefit from the late announcement of two lower engineering orders worth more than £100m. Plessey fell 17 to 320p, while Rascal closed a like amount down at 398p and Thorn EMI lost 13 to 427p. BICC gave up 8 to 265p. Secondary issues followed in the wake of the leaders. United Scientific falling 20 to 473p and Ferranti 15 to 540p. Unitech, 190p, and Electrocomponents, 130p, lost 8 apiece.

Leading Engineers followed the lower trend, with dullness becoming more pronounced in the late trading. Hawker were outstanding with a fall of 11 at 318p, while Tubes, 98p and GKN, 153p, fell 8 apiece. Among the occasional movements in secondary issues, Raden a good market of late, turned reactionary and fell 10 to 223p, while B. Elliott, half-yearly figures due on Thursday, eased 5 to 110p. Bertrams, in contrast, responded to favourable Press mention with a rise of 4 to 14½p. Other firm spots included ML Holdings, up 5 at 290p, and P. Pratt, 4 dealer at 82p.

The Food sector, the subject of considerable speculative activity last week, faded from the limelight. J. Sainsbury shed 10 to 475p and Associated Dairies 4 to 134p, while Kwik Save gave

up 6 to 224p. Tesco on the other hand, hardened 1 to 59p in front of today's interim results. Elsewhere, Ranks Horis McDougall relinquished 3 to 83p following adverse Press comment, while Northern came on offer and shed 4 to 140p with the new nil-paid shares 6 off at 9p premium. Avana, in which Northern recently increased its stake to 20.5 per cent, lost 5 to 240p, while profit-taking clipped 10 from recently firm Bernard Matthews, 125p. Against the trend, Bluebird Confectionery gained 3 to 60p on speculative interest.

Oils on offer

Interest in the Oil sector failed to expand and quotations followed the general downward trend. Among the leaders, Shell gave up 12 more to 364p ahead of Thursday's third-quarter figures. Elsewhere, Lameo fell 25 to 480p and Tricentrol 18 to 250p, but Charterhouse Petroleum improved 4 to 72p in response to Press mention, while Sunmak gained 10 to 180p, also on Press comment.

Movements in investment trusts were usually against holders. Gresham House eased 7 to 220p. Dealings in Cambrian and General were suspended at 125p pending the reorganisation of the company. Financials were again featured by money brokers, which succumbed to increased profit-taking awaiting Exco's debut tomorrow. R. P. Martin, 335p, Mills and Allen, 450p, and Mercantile House, 450p, all fell around 20.

Shipings generally closed with small losses. In the absence of developments in the rumoured bid situation, P & O Deferred slipped 5 to 135p.

Gold at 4-month low

All sections of mining markets continued to lose ground as sizable selling pressure followed the renewed weakness of precious and base metal prices and a sharp decline in UK equities.

South African Golds fell for the seventh consecutive trading day in the wake of the bullion price which threatened to drop below \$400 an oz prior to closing a net \$7.50 down at \$404.50. The sharemarket opened on a steady note, but quickly encountered persistent selling which prompted a general market-down of prices.

Sellers were not deterred and quotations closed with substantial and widespread losses. The Gold Mines index fell 18.3 to 307.7—its lowest since July 8. In the heavyweights, Barst best were notably weak and dropped £31 to £221, while losses ranging from £11 to £2 were common to Randfontein, £38, "Amgold", £43, and Western Holdings, £25. Among the medium and lower-priced issues, Libanon gave up 62 to 878p.

South African Financials were equally depressed. Anglo American showed a fall of 40 at 665p. General fell 30 to 900p and De Beers 13 to 335p.

A limited attempted rally in London-domiciled Financials quickly ran out of steam and prices settled at the day's lowest. Rio Tinto-Zinc were finally 17

FINANCIAL TIMES STOCK INDICES

	Nov. 16	Nov. 15	Nov. 14	Nov. 13	Nov. 12	Nov. 11	Nov. 10	Nov. 9	A year ago
Government Secs.	64.30	63.68	63.25	62.66	62.34	62.89	62.89	62.89	71.32
Fixed Interest	64.28	63.61	63.20	62.63	62.31	62.86	62.86	62.86	72.03
Industrial Ord.	503.7	516.2	518.8	508.2	502.7	510.9	495.1	495.1	495.1
Gold Mines	307.7	326.0	327.4	324.3	347.2	351.7	446.5	446.5	446.5
Ord. Div. Yield	5.93	5.75	5.74	5.83	5.91	6.83	7.32	7.32	7.32
Earnings, Yld. % (full)	9.92	9.61	9.60	9.75	9.88	9.95	16.25	16.25	16.25
P/E Ratio (net) (%)	13.10	13.52	13.34	13.32	13.16	12.90	7.54	7.54	7.54
Total bargains	19,288	16,817	21,084	16,362	19,155	22,571	22,533	22,533	22,533
Equity turnover £m	130.37	136.96	103.22	127.28	104.72	116.86	116.86	116.86	116.86
Equity bargains	13,209	14,259	15,448	14,981	10,077	17,549	17,549	17,549	17,549

10 am 510.8, 11 am 513.0, Noon 512.2, 1 pm 505.4, 2 am 506.4, 3 pm 505.7.
Latest index 01-248 3025.
*H=11.68.

Basis 100 Govt. Secs. 15/10/26. Fixed Int. 1928. Industrial Ord. 1/7/35. Gold Mines 12/9/35. SE Activity 1974.

HIGHS AND LOWS S.E. ACTIVITY

	1981	Since Completion	Nov. 13	Nov. 12
Govt. Secs.	70.61	60.17	127.4	49.18
Fixed Int.	72.01	61.61	150.4	50.53
Ind. Ord.	597.3	456.0	597.3	597.3
Gold Mines	429.0	363.8	556.9	43.5

WORLD VALUE OF THE POUND

The table below gives the latest available rate of exchange for the pound against various currencies on November 16, 1981. In some cases, the rate is nominal. Market rates are the average of buying and selling rates.

Abbreviations: (A) approximate rate; (B) bank's rate; (C) commercial rate; (D) convertible rate; (E) financial rate; (F) exchange certificate rate; (G) exchange rate; (H) gold rate; (I) non-commercial rate; (J) non-nominal; (K) official rate; (L) selling rate.

PLACE AND LOCAL UNIT	VALUE OF £ STERLING	PLACE AND LOCAL UNIT	VALUE OF £ STERLING	PLACE AND LOCAL UNIT	VALUE OF £ STERLING
Afghanistan (Afghani)	99.00	Greenland (Danish Kroner)	13.555	Paraguay (Guarani)	106.4155
Albania (Lek)	10.95	Grenada (G.D.)	5.17	Peru (Sol)	182.80
Algeria (Dinar)	8.0610	Guatemala (Guatemalan Quetzal)	1.9135	Philippines (Philippine Peso)	13.25
Andorra (Spanish Peseta)	166.64	Guinea (Guinean Franc)	1.9135	Pitcairn Islands (New Zealand \$)	2.045
Angola (Kwanza)	(C) 20.480	Guinea-Bissau (Guinean Escudo)	1.9135	Poland (Zloty)	1.9135
Antigua (E. Caribbean \$)	5.17	Guyana (Guyanese \$)	5.17	Portugal (Portuguese Escudo)	1.9135
Argentina (A.P.)	12.480	Haiti (Gourde)	9.7875	Puerto Rico (U.S. \$)	1.9135
Australia (Aust. \$)	1.5750	Honduras (Honduran Lempira)	5.17	Romania (Roumanian Leu)	1.9135
Austria (Schilling)	13.7603	Hong Kong (H.K. \$)	5.17	Rwanda (Rwandan Franc)	1.9135
Belgium (Belgian Franc)	36.363	Hungary (Forint)	65.4917	S. Christopher (S.E. Caribbean \$)	5.17
Belize (Belize \$)	5.17	Iceland (Icelandic Krona)	16.292	S. Helena (S. Helena \$)	5.17
Bermuda (Bermudian \$)	5.17	India (Indian Rupee)	17.38	S. Lucia (S. Lucia \$)	5.17
Bhutan (Bhutanese Ngultrum)	5.17	Indonesia (Indonesian Rupiah)	1.9135	S. Vincent (S. Vincent \$)	5.17
Bolivia (Bolivian Boliviano)	5.17	Iran (Iranian Rial)	1.9135	Salvador (Salvadoran Colon)	5.17
Botswana (Botswana Pula)	5.17	Iraq (Iraqi Dinar)	1.9135	Samoa (Samoa Tala)	5.17
Brazil (Brazilian Cruzeiro)	224.30	Israel (Israeli Sheqel)	1.9135	Sao Paulo (Sao Paulo Real)	5.17
Brunei (Brunei Dollar)	5.17	Italy (Italian Lira)	1.9135	Senegal (Senegalese Franc)	5.17
Bulgaria (Bulgarian Lev)	1.9135	Jamaica (Jamaican Dollar)	5.17	Seychelles (Seychellois Rupee)	5.17
Burkina Faso (Burkina Faso CFA Franc)	5.17	Japan (Yen)	1.9135	Singapore (Singapore Dollar)	5.17
Burundi (Burundian Franc)	5.17	Jordan (Jordanian Dinar)	5.17	Sierra Leone (Sierra Leone Leone)	5.17
Cambodia (Cambodian Riel)	5.17	Kampuchea (Riel)	2.9962	Somalia (Somali Shilling)	5.17
Cameroon (Cameroon CFA Franc)	5.17	Kenya (Kenyan Shilling)	1.9135	Somali Republic (Somali Shilling)	5.17
Canada (Canadian \$)	1.9135	Kiribati (Kiribati Dollar)	1.9135	South Africa (South African Rand)	5.17
Cape Verde (Cape Verde Escudo)	5.17	Korea (South Korean Won)	1.9135	South West Africa (South West African Dollar)	5.17
Cayman Islands (Cayman \$)	5.17	Kuwait (Kuwait Dinar)	5.17	Territories (S. A. Rand)	5.17
Cent. Afr. Repub. (C.F.A. Franc)	5.17	Laos (New Kip)	1.9135	Tanzania (Tanzanian Shilling)	5.17
Chad (C.F.A. Franc)	5.17	Lebanon (Lebanese \$)	5.17	Thailand (Thai Baht)	5.17
Chile (Chilean Peso)	5.17	Libania (Libanian Dollar)	5.17	Togo (Togolese CFA Franc)	5.17
China (Chinese Yuan)	5.17	Liechtenstein (Swiss Franc)	5.17	Tonga (Tongan Paanga)	5.17
Colombia (Colombian Peso)	5.17	Luxembourg (Luxembourg Franc)	5.17	Trinidad (Trinidad and Tob. \$)	5.17
Comoros (Comorian CFA Franc)	5.17	Macao (Pataca)	1.9135	Tunisia (Tunisian Dinar)	5.17
Congo (Congo CFA Franc)	5.17	Madagascar (Malagasy Franc)	5.17	Turkey (Turkish Lira)	5.17
Costa Rica (Costa Rican Colon)	5.17	Malawi (Malawi Kwacha)	5.17	Turkmenistan (Turkmen Manat)	5.17
Cyprus (Cypriot \$)	5.17	Malaysia (Malaysian Ringgit)	5.17	Uganda (Ugandan Shilling)	5.17
Czechoslovakia (Czech Koruna)	5.17	Maldives (Maldivian Rufiyaa)	5.17	United States (U.S. Dollar)	5.17
		Mali (Mali Franc)	5.17	Uruguay (Uruguayan Peso)	5.17
		Malta (Maltese \$)	5.17	Uzbekistan (Uzbek Soviet Ruble)	5.17
		Mauritania (Mauritanian Ouguiya)	5.17	Venezuela (Venezuelan Bolivar)	5.17
		Mauritius (Mauritian Rupee)	5.17		
		Mexico (Mexican Peso)	5.17		
		Morocco (Moroccan Dirham)	5.17		
		Mozambique (Mozambican Escudo)	5.17		
		Nepal (Nepalese Rupee)	5.17		
		Netherlands (Dutch Guilder)	5.17		
		Nicaragua (Nicaraguan Cordoba)	5.17		
		Niger (Niger CFA Franc)	5.17		
		Nigeria (Nigerian Naira)	5.17		
		North Macedonia (Macedonian Denar)	5.17		
		Oman (Omani Rial)	5.17		
		Pakistan (Pakistani Rupee)	5.17		
		Panama (Panamanian Balboa)	5.17		
		Paraguay (Guarani)	106.4155		
		Peru (Sol)	182.80		

NEW HIGHS AND LOWS FOR 1981

The following table shows the new highs and lows for 1981 for the main stock indices and the FT-Actuaries Share Indices.

NEW HIGHS (10)	NEW LOWS (38)
Government Secs. (Nov. 16, 1981)	Industrial Ord. (Nov. 16, 1981)
Fixed Interest (Nov. 16, 1981)	Gold Mines (Nov. 16, 1981)
Ord. Div. Yield (Nov. 16, 1981)	Earnings, Yld. % (Nov. 16, 1981)
P/E Ratio (Nov. 16, 1981)	Total bargains (Nov. 16, 1981)
Equity turnover (Nov. 16, 1981)	Equity bargains (Nov. 16, 1981)

FT-ACTUARIES SHARE INDICES

These indices are the joint compilation of the Financial Times, the Institute of Actuaries and the Faculty of Actuaries.

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EQUITY GROUPS & SUB-SECTIONS

Mon., Nov. 16, 1981

Fri.
Nov.
13

Thurs.
Nov.
12

Wed.
Nov.
11

Figures in parentheses show number of
stocks per section

	Index	Day's Change %	Est. Earnings Ytd % (Max.)	Gross Ytd % (ACT at 30%)	Est. P/E Ratio (N/E)	Index	Index	Index
1 CAPITAL GOODS (209)	331.52	-2.2	10.47	4.76	11.82	338.87	339.55	335.75
2 Building Materials (25)	287.51	-0.8	15.51	5.95	7.36	289.99	288.95	287.85
3 Contracting, Construction (28)	505.05	-0.9	18.86	5.46	6.19	509.73	509.58	508.11
4 Electricals (20)	1121.99	-3.3	8.13	2.56	15.35	1159.75	1168.78	1168.78
5 Engineering Contractors (9)	477.63	-0.5	13.58	2.51	8.68	481.19	487.14	482.41
6 Mechanical Engineering (66)	138.96	-2.0	11.63	5.94	10.95	138.82	139.02	136.56
7 Metals and Metal Forming (12)	157.30	-2.4	9.18	7.72	14.85	163.12	158.47	156.19
8 Motors (21)	87.38	-1.7	7.76	7.72	8.92	88.92	87.71	86.86
9 Other Industrial Materials (18)	347.52	-1.3	9.45	6.50	12.87	352.04	352.11	350.16
10 CONSUMER GROUP (159)	264.85	-2.0	13.24	6.12	9.32	272.51	271.77	268.11
11 Brewers and Distillers (7)	267.68	-2.3	16.81	7.25	7.17	273.73	273.58	270.01
12 Food Manufacturing (21)	269.94	-0.9	14.98	6.28	8.10	272.30	272.69	270.01
13 Food Retailing (15)	546.86	-1.7	9.43	3.48	12.87	556.51	551.20	555.05
14 Health and Household Products (7)	353.05	-1.8	8.39	3.44	32.99	359.59	358.05	355.05
15 Leisure (24)	415.88	-1.5	9.78	5.29	12.69	423.02	421.17	419.05
16 Newspapers, Publishing (12)	463.05	-0.2	13.31	6.51	10.89	463.02	463.02	461.05
17 Packaging and Paper (13)	127.14	-2.4	16.22	8.57	7.35	130.33	130.05	128.70
18 Textiles (23)	248.54	-2.9	12.12	5.65	11.06	244.39	241.38	241.11
19 Tobacco (3)	248.54	-1.9	9.09	6.31	15.05	248.76	248.11	248.11
20 Other Consumer (14)	256.38	-1.2	6.31	7.03	25.66	259.41	257.90	257.90
21 OTHER GROUPS (80)	217.11	-2.3	11.15	6.37	11.57	222.55	222.88	219.31
22 Chemicals (16)	285.25	-2.5	5.63	6.34	29.82	284.64	285.35	283.45
23 Office Equipment (4)	99.86	-2.1	18.31	8.82	6.55	102.04	101.23	101.47
24 Shipping and Transport (13)	495.63	-1.5	21.39	7.45	5.57	502.26	504.23	499.10
25 Miscellaneous (47)	278.41	-1.3	12.46	5.70	9.93	282.20	282.77	278.10
26 INDUSTRIAL GROUP (487)	282.03	-2.1	11.93	5.64	10.41	283.10	283.04	280.04
27 OIL (13)	702.03	-2.5	20.28	8.04	5.58	719.74	722.88	718.04
28 FINANCIAL GROUP (119)	316.09	-2.2	13.41	6.07	9.03	323.10	323.10	321.10
29 Banks (6)	247.72	-2.1	6.97	6.97	25.19	256.40	256.40	253.40
30 Insurance (10)	247.72	-2.1	6.97	6.97	25.19	248.40	248.40	245.40
31 Hire Purchase (3)	222.41	-0.4	13.99	9.85	28.76	223.98	223.98	221.98
32 Insurance (Life) (9)	252.20	-1.8	8.41	8.41	15.62	256.24	256.24	253.24
33 Insurance (Composite) (10)	159.26	-3.4	8.41	8.41	15.62	164.90	164.90	161.90
34 Insurance Brokers (8)	418.07	-2.4	11.05	5.77	12.31	425.93	424.53	421.53
35 Merchant Banks (13)	159.26	-0.9	5.22	5.22	15.62	155.49	155.49	152.49
36 Property (50)	453.63	-1.7	4.42	3.16	30.51	461.49	461.49	458.49
37 Miscellaneous (10)	171.49	-2.2	38.73	6.40	8.69	173.64	173.65	170.65
38 Investment Trusts (120)	284.13	-2.4	5.66	5.66	28.65	288.76	288.76	285.76
39 Mining (Financial)	231.24	-3.3	14.90	6.12	9.32	239.22	239.22	236.22
40 Overseas Traders (17)	409.71	-2.1	12.85	7.77	9.49	412.80	412.80	409.80
41 ALL SHARES INDEX (750)	301.79	-2.1	6.08	6.08	38.38	308.32	308.32	305.32

FT UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE[illegible]



FT SHARE INFORMATION SERVICE

LOANS

Stock	Price	%	Yield
Public Board and Ind.	100	100	100
Ampl. M. 30-99	100	100	100
W. M. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S.M.C. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S. 30-99	100	100	100

FINANCIAL

Stock	Price	%	Yield
Ampl. M. 30-99	100	100	100
W. M. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S.M.C. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S. 30-99	100	100	100

BUILDING SOCIETIES

Stock	Price	%	Yield
Ampl. M. 30-99	100	100	100
W. M. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S.M.C. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S. 30-99	100	100	100

FOREIGN BONDS & RAILS

Stock	Price	%	Yield
Ampl. M. 30-99	100	100	100
W. M. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S.M.C. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S. 30-99	100	100	100

AMERICANS

Stock	Price	%	Yield
Ampl. M. 30-99	100	100	100
W. M. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S.M.C. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S. 30-99	100	100	100

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

Stock	Price	%	Yield
Ampl. M. 30-99	100	100	100
W. M. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S.M.C. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S. 30-99	100	100	100

UNDATED

Stock	Price	%	Yield
Ampl. M. 30-99	100	100	100
W. M. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S.M.C. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S. 30-99	100	100	100

INT. BANK AND O'SEAS GOVT. STERLING ISSUES

Stock	Price	%	Yield
Ampl. M. 30-99	100	100	100
W. M. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S.M.C. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S. 30-99	100	100	100

CORPORATION LOANS

Stock	Price	%	Yield
Ampl. M. 30-99	100	100	100
W. M. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S.M.C. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S. 30-99	100	100	100

COMMONWEALTH AND AFRICAN LOANS

Stock	Price	%	Yield
Ampl. M. 30-99	100	100	100
W. M. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S.M.C. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S. 30-99	100	100	100

CANADIANS

Stock	Price	%	Yield
Ampl. M. 30-99	100	100	100
W. M. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S.M.C. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S. 30-99	100	100	100

CANADIANS—Continued

Stock	Price	%	Yield
Ampl. M. 30-99	100	100	100
W. M. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S.M.C. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S. 30-99	100	100	100

BANKS AND HIRE PURCHASE

Stock	Price	%	Yield
Ampl. M. 30-99	100	100	100
W. M. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S.M.C. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S. 30-99	100	100	100

BEERS, WINES AND SPIRITS

Stock	Price	%	Yield
Ampl. M. 30-99	100	100	100
W. M. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S.M.C. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S. 30-99	100	100	100

BUILDING INDUSTRY, TIMBER AND ROADS

Stock	Price	%	Yield
Ampl. M. 30-99	100	100	100
W. M. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S.M.C. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S. 30-99	100	100	100

ELECTRICALS

Stock	Price	%	Yield
Ampl. M. 30-99	100	100	100
W. M. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S.M.C. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S. 30-99	100	100	100

FOOD, GROCERIES, ETC.

Stock	Price	%	Yield
Ampl. M. 30-99	100	100	100
W. M. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S.M.C. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S. 30-99	100	100	100

BUILDING INDUSTRY—Contd.

Stock	Price	%	Yield
Ampl. M. 30-99	100	100	100
W. M. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S.M.C. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S. 30-99	100	100	100

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

Stock	Price	%	Yield
Ampl. M. 30-99	100	100	100
W. M. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S.M.C. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S. 30-99	100	100	100

DRAPERY AND STORES

Stock	Price	%	Yield
Ampl. M. 30-99	100	100	100
W. M. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S.M.C. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S. 30-99	100	100	100

ELECTRICALS—Continued

Stock	Price	%	Yield
Ampl. M. 30-99	100	100	100
W. M. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S.M.C. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S. 30-99	100	100	100

ENGINEERING MACHINE TOOLS

Stock	Price	%	Yield
Ampl. M. 30-99	100	100	100
W. M. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S.M.C. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S. 30-99	100	100	100

HOTELS AND CATERERS

Stock	Price	%	Yield
Ampl. M. 30-99	100	100	100
W. M. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S.M.C. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S. 30-99	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS (Misc)

Stock	Price	%	Yield
Ampl. M. 30-99	100	100	100
W. M. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S.M.C. 30-99	100	100	100
U.S. 30-99	100	100	100

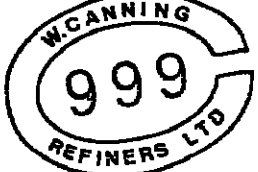
W. CANNING REFINERS RECEIVE 'GOOD DELIVERY' MARK.

The W.Canning Group proudly announces that a subsidiary of John Betts Refiners Ltd. — a wholly owned member of the group — has been granted the London Silver Market's 'good delivery' mark of approval. W.Canning Refiners Ltd. is now entitled to stamp its silver bullion bars 'W.Canning 999' signifying that they are 99.9% pure silver and directly acceptable to the London Bullion Markets.

John Betts Refiners' comprehensive service includes the recovery of precious metals from photographic wastes and jewellery and electronic scrap, and from metal finishing chemicals. Other members of the Canning Group are involved in the supply of chemicals and process plant for precious metal plating and the treatment of effluent and recovery of high value metals.

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1	Star	5	Premier	7
2	N.C.F.	6	Shel	28
3	Acc. Accident	10	Trisentral	25
4	Sec. Electric	13	Ultramar	46
5	Sec. Gas	14		
6	Trans. Met.	15	Almas	
7	U.S. 'A'	16	Charter Cos.	22
8	U.S. 'A'	17	Cons. Gold	40
9	K.N.	18	Lamco	7
10	Lawyer Stock	19	Wu T. Zim.	45
11		20		
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91		100		

A selection of Options traded is given on the
London Stock Exchange Report page

18.0	Burns Corp.	10	Midland Bank	25	29	Oil.
1.4	Can. Pac.	9	N.E.	24	28	Petroleum
1.0	Can. Nat.	8	N. West. Bank	23	27	Refining
0.8	Can. Pac. Ry.	7	P. & D. Bk.	22	26	Sham Oil
0.6	Can. Pac. Ry.	6	P. & D. Bk.	21	25	Sham Oil
0.5	Can. Pac. Ry.	5	P. & D. Bk.	20	24	Sham Oil
0.4	Can. Pac. Ry.	4	P. & D. Bk.	19	23	Sham Oil
0.3	Can. Pac. Ry.	3	P. & D. Bk.	18	22	Sham Oil
0.2	Can. Pac. Ry.	2	P. & D. Bk.	17	21	Sham Oil
0.1	Can. Pac. Ry.	1	P. & D. Bk.	16	20	Sham Oil
0.0	Can. Pac. Ry.	0	P. & D. Bk.	15	19	Sham Oil
0.0	Can. Pac. Ry.	0	P. & D. Bk.	14	18	Sham Oil
0.0	Can. Pac. Ry.	0	P. & D. Bk.	13	17	Sham Oil
0.0	Can. Pac. Ry.	0	P. & D. Bk.	12	16	Sham Oil
0.0	Can. Pac. Ry.	0	P. & D. Bk.	11	15	Sham Oil
0.0	Can. Pac. Ry.	0	P. & D. Bk.	10	14	Sham Oil
0.0	Can. Pac. Ry.	0	P. & D. Bk.	9	13	Sham Oil
0.0	Can. Pac. Ry.	0	P. & D. Bk.	8	12	Sham Oil
0.0	Can. Pac. Ry.	0	P. & D. Bk.	7	11	Sham Oil
0.0	Can. Pac. Ry.	0	P. & D. Bk.	6	10	Sham Oil
0.0	Can. Pac. Ry.	0	P. & D. Bk.	5	9	Sham Oil
0.0	Can. Pac. Ry.	0	P. & D. Bk.	4	8	Sham Oil
0.0	Can. Pac. Ry.	0	P. & D. Bk.	3	7	Sham Oil
0.0	Can. Pac. Ry.	0	P. & D. Bk.	2	6	Sham Oil
0.0	Can. Pac. Ry.	0	P. & D. Bk.	1	5	Sham Oil
0.0	Can. Pac. Ry.	0	P. & D. Bk.	0	4	Sham Oil
0.0	Can. Pac. Ry.	0	P. & D. Bk.	0	3	Sham Oil
0.0	Can. Pac. Ry.	0	P. & D. Bk.	0	2	Sham Oil
0.0	Can. Pac. Ry.	0	P. & D. Bk.	0	1	Sham Oil
0.0	Can. Pac. Ry.	0	P. & D. Bk.	0	0	Sham Oil

